MOM...GUESS WHAT!

MGW

NEWSPAPER

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Gays/lesbians joining the call for peace

by Jim Walker
MANAGING EDITOR

Thousands of gay men and lesbians nationwide are calling for an end to the war against Iraq.

Gay involvement in the new peace movement has been especially evident in San Francisco where members of ACT-UP and Queer Nation have added to the thousands protesting for peace in marches and vigils everyday since the war began.

The chant of some gay protestors- "make love, not war," has in many cases, been followed with a demand that the Bush Administration redirect money being spent on the war to AIDS.

One activist who was among those in a protest that blocked the Bay Bridge, said 10,000 have died from AIDS since the war began and that people have forgotten about a war here.

In Sacramento on January 15, gays were among 700 protestors at the downtown post office where at least 35 arrested inside and three outside for obstructing an entrance to a public building.

Protestors were confronted by a Federal Marshall who gave them three minutes to disperse. After being notified, those inside began singing peace songs and locked arms. After a thirty second warning expired, a woman was first to be arrested, the other arrests followed.

MGW photographer Pam Coffey recalls the scene: "some protestors came very quietly, others were kicking and screaming."

"The interaction began the demonstrators and the police was very calm. The only opposition expressed was from a couple of Vietnam Vets who let the protestors know their positions," said Coffey.▼

Activists who were arrested and charged with blocking the lobby of the Federal Building were carried or otherwise led away to the cheers of their supporters.

Photos by Pamela Coffey

Are you a victim of ... hate violence?

Hate violence is an act of violence based on an individual's race, religion, disability, sexual orientation or any other status that is protected by law. If you think you have been the victim of hate violence, contact the Human Rights/Fair Housing Commission at 444-6903.

The commission is holding a public forum on hate violence on Thursday, February 14 in the City Council Chambers from 12-5pm. At the forum you will have the opportunity to give public testimony. Written testimony will also be accepted.

If you want to tell your story but wish to remain anonymous, call the commission so that arrangements can be made.▼

Firemen's Insurance Company recognizes domestic partners

Firemen's Insurance Company of Washington, D.C., one of America's oldest business firms, has become the first insurance company in the nation to file a Homeowners policy change that recognizes domestic partners. By redefining who is insured, the new endorsement extends to domestic partners the automatic coverage rights enjoyed by spouses and relatives of Homeowners policyholders.

Chartered in 1837, Firemen's Insurance Company is the only property and casualty insurance company headquartered in the District of Columbia. A+ rated year after year by A.M. Best, the company has grown and prospered by serving the community and, today, insures more dwellings in Washington than any other insurance carrier.

Firemen's offers Homeowners coverage to apartment renters and the owners of dwellings and condos in D.C. and the states of Maryland and Virginia.

According to Carl Blundell, CPCU, a company underwriting manager who created the new endorsement, "this Homeowners policy change will extend automatic coverage to anyone with whom an insured has a close, committed personal relationship that involves sharing household responsibilities and owning property together. Automatic coverage applies after an insured has established such a relationship and lived with their domestic partner continuously for at least six months."

"The public will no longer confuse us with Firemans Fund or any other insurance company," says Firemen's new president, Dick Andrews. "We will have the first Homeowners policy in the insurance industry that will serve the diverse and changing lifestyles of today's society without sacrificing the privacy needs of the individual."

Andrews advises that Firemen's, unlike other insurance companies, will no longer require that the name of an insured's domestic partner be disclosed and appear on the Homeowners policy in order for the partner to be included for coverage. "Because our new endorsement eliminates the need for such notification, unmarried insureds and their domestic partners will have the privacy choices and coverage rights enjoyed by married couples."

Firemen's Insurance Company plans to begin attaching the new endorsement to all Homeowners policies it issues beginning in early 1991.▼

staff & information

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Mom Guess What is an award winning newspaper . . . in national news reporting, photojournalism and editorial/commentary writing.

Mom Guess What is a bridge-builder that influences centers of influence. It is read by decision makers both gay and non-gay.

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Mail to MGW, 1725 L Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

write

Editor's note: The following is a series of letters recently received by MGW ... the first is dated Jan. 10, 1991

Give peace a chance

Dear Editor:

Yea! We can have peace! We have it now! And we can keep it if enough of us lobby Congress and insist that they vote "no" on armed attack of Iraq!

Bush already is in violation of the War Powers Act: 60 days passed long ago. The vietnam War lasted almost a decade; so what are six months, or even a year, of sanctions? this is not a TV show. U.S. troops now in the Gulf were not committed by Congress or the American people and the world knows that. And saving face for Bush is irrelevant in the face of life and of saving one's physical and economic neck.

This week is vital. Call and write Congresspersons now -- for our own sake and for that of future generations. All war, like slavery, is obsolete.

Glenn Rice

These two letters were dated Jan.14, 1991...

War: Suffering results

Dear Editor:

Americans of Japanese descent are now being compensated, at $25,000 each, for unconstitutional treatment they received from the U.S. government depriving them of their most basic freedoms, rights and possessions during World War II. This would seem to indicate that we do in fact have some belated belief that our Constitution is to be obeyed, and that when it is not, gross injustice and suffering result.

The only constitutional way for the United States to go to war is for Congress to declare one. Because this is true, for Congress simply to refrain from making any such declaration is constitutionally sufficient to forestall any offensive U.S. military action! There is no constitutional requirement for pre-war debate, argument, presidential appeasement or fuss. But a formal declaration is required, and no one else can make it. "Resolutions" directed to Lyndon Johnson or George Bush are not such a declaration and so fail the constitutional test. Any president who dares attempt to flaunt this Congressional prerogative, cited explicitly by both Alexander Hamilton and Abraham Lincoln as transcendently distinguishing and essential bedrock of our constitutional democracy, and to appropriate this power to himself, must be impeached.

Congress has not declared war upon Iraq and is not likely to! Absent such Congressional action there simply can be no lawful U.S. offensive military action in the Middle East or anywhere else today, tomorrow, next week or next year!

We made this egregious mistake in Vietnam. Let us not do it again.

Glenn Rice

Congress and war

Dear Editor:

Under the Constitution does Congress have exclusive right to declare war? yes. Can Congress delegate that authority to the president, or to anyone? No. Is a general resolution addressed to a president a declaration of war upon a country? No. Has there been a congressional declaration of war upon Iraq? No. Therefore: Under the United States Constitution can U.S. troops in the Persian Gulf launch an attack upon Iraq or any other country either this week or in the immediate future? No!

Glenn Rice

Cranston writes to our community

Dear Editor:

The praise that Senator Cranston offers to Lambda Letters really belongs to the many people who have written to him and other legislators. I thought you might want to publish his letter as evidence of the value of writing to our elected officials.

Boyce Hinman
Lambda Letters Project

Dear Boyce:

I am deeply honored by the award from the Lambda Letters project for my work on behalf of the lesbian and gay community.

Freedom and justice for all humanity can only be achieved when citizens take positive steps to assure their rights and when leaders of government respond. The Lambda Letters project meets the crucial test of citizen involvement. Through your efforts, those of us in public office know that lesbians and gay men everywhere support and encourage the efforts to end homophobia and discrimination.

This recognition means a great deal to me.

Alan Cranston
United States Senate

Guidelines for "Dear Editor" letters: Letters must be signed with your real name, address and phone (so we can call you with any questions). Your name, address and phone may be withheld upon written request. Letters will not be accepted over 250 words. Letters will be edited for space requirements. Letters will not be published unless the above guidelines are followed.

Carol

Be my Valentine?!?

XOXOX

Happy Birthday and Happy Valentine's Day, Anna, my beautiful Chinese woman

I think of the smile of your eyes when you awake. The softness of your skin as I touch you. The sound of your laughter when you find something witty; And not to forget your gentle heart. These are only a few of my favorite things I love about you.

Love, your Irish Leprechaun, Lou Anne

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For more information, please write or call: National Coming Out Day. P.O. Box 8349, Santa Fe, NM 87504, 505-982-2558 or 1-800-445-NCOD

Gay man arrested for attempted murder

by M.R. Richards
OF MGW STAFF

Sacramento, CA -- A suspect has been arrested in Spokane, Washington for the brutal beating, stabbing and robbery of a Sacramento man on Jan. 3. According to reports, cooperation between the gay communities and police departments in Sacramento and Spokane led to the Jan. 9, arrest of David A. Hobbs, 26, for the attempted murder of Wayne Perrone, 35. Police are also comparing notes with Sacramento Sheriff's detective and are investigating a possible link between this crime and the Oct. 17 murder of former East Bay resident, 58-year-old Charles "Chuck" Baumia.

According to reports, Perrone and Hobbs met at the Western Bar at 20th and K Streets in Sacramento. The two men had drinks and left together sometime after 9 p.m. The next morning Perrone was found in a doorway near the bar -- brutally beaten. He had been stabbed so forcefully that police originally thought he had been shot. Perrone had been repeatedly kicked in the face and head and sustained major injury to his eye. He is still in a coma in the intensive care ward at the University of California at Davis Medical Center in Sacramento and is still in a battle for his life. Perrone's wallet and his 1986 Toyota truck were also missing.

Sacramento police were able, with the help of members of the gay community, to create a sketch of Hobbs and to widely distribute it. Spokane police distributed the flyers in their gay community and within a short time had reports which enabled them to recover Perrone's truck on and arrest Hobbs.

Police in Sacramento are investigating the possibility that Hobbs may be linked to the murder of Baumia who was killed in his Sacramento home in October. Baumia was stabbed several times in his upper body, valuables were removed from his home and his car stolen.

Although he could protest, Hobbs is expected to be extradited to Sacramento very soon. However, police say Perrone's survival will determine how soon and on what charges Hobbs will be brought to trial.▼

Queer Nation files complaints

by M.R. Richards
OF MGW STAFF

Sacramento, CA -- Depositions and signed complaints from four members of Queer Nation detailing discriminatory treatment and use of excessive force by Sacramento police and sheriffs during the group's gubernatorial inaugural protests were expected to arrive in Sacramento on Tuesday, Jan. 15. Complainants are Irwin E. Keller, 30, attorney for the group; Dean M. Tuckerman, 38, Robin E. Wilson, 26, and Derek S. Boyle, 20.

Ed Close, Media officer for the Sheriff's Department, said that his department had been investigating the allegations as soon as they heard about them from the media. "However," Close said, we've been waiting to get the specific allegations from the people who are making the complaints." Close said his department wants to do a competent and thorough investigation of the complaints and will not say anything regarding the issue until they have completed the investigation. Close had no idea how long the investigation would take, "We have people who have days off or who go on vacation who might be relevant to the investigation and we have to wait until they come back -- there are a lot of factors involved," Close said.

Everett Denman, an activist who is liaison for Queer Nation in Sacramento is delivering the complaints to Deputy Naya Miller. Miller, a Community Relations officer has been conducting in-service training classes for deputies on gay and lesbian issues in conjunction with Sacramento's Lambda Center/RCDC Gay and Lesbian Speaker's Bureau. In the past, she has acted as liaison for the gay community on a number of sensitive issues. Miller said she will meet with Denman and will make sure that the complaints are brought directly to the attention of Sheriff Glen Craig and then go through the proper channels for investigation.

Miller would not speculate on the reported demands being made by the group. According to Denman, Queer Nation will allow, "a couple of weeks for their internal investigation then within the next couple of weeks we expect to have a meeting with the Sheriff; we expect a public apology; we want immediate and intensive sensitivity training in both the police and sheriff's department and especially for the deputies in the county jail. We also want a guarantee that the Constitution of the United States is not suspended the minute San Franciscans cross the county line. We have to have access to our legislators and that right is being denied."

According to Sacramento Police Department's Deputy Chief, Lee Dohm, some people were escorted out of the Community Center because they didn't want to be arrested. "The five that were arrested were arrested and charged by the Sacramento Police Department and then turned over to the Sheriff's Department at the county jail," Dohm said.

According to Jonathan Katz, organizer of the Queer Nation demonstration said Tuesday, Jan. 15, "I think it needs to be known that Ed Close of the Sacramento Sheriff's Department lied in his statement to the San Francisco Examiner. He said we were offered the opportunity to be cited out and released and that's just not true. What did happen is that there was an argument between the Sacramento police and the sheriffs at the jail. The police were telling the sheriffs that our people were to be cited out and the sheriffs told them to back off. "They said `get off our turf -- it's our jail and we do what we want.'" "Our people were never offered any such options -- and it's possible that a turf war between the police and the sheriffs resulted in our people having to spend 9 hours in jail."

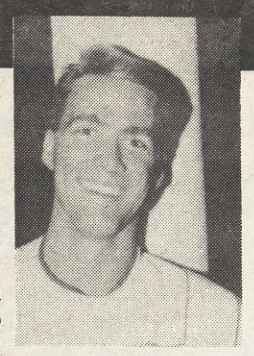
Sacramento County Jail commander, Capt. Ed Doonan said, "First of all we don't need the business here, we have at least 200 people a day come through here so we're busy enough. By law when an arresting agency brings people in we have to take them. But we have absolute documentation that they [Queer Nation] were here for only from three to seven hours. We take our responsibility very seriously and we do take disciplinary action against any officer who abuses his authority."

Katz said that he and the rest of the group that waited for their jailed comrades in the county jail lobby, were told by their lawyer, Irwin Keller, to "get out, be quiet and don't be confrontational." "We complied with that," Katz said, "the only offensive thing we did was to be openly queer. They couldn't deal with that."

Katz was referring to the part of Keller's complaint which alleges the waiting protesters were told by deputies they could only go to the bathroom one at a time because, "we [the deputies] don't want lewd and lascivious conduct in our bathroom." Doonan said, "That bathroom is very small and everyone has the right to privacy. There are no walls between the urinals in there and it's really not necessary for people to go in in groups." Doonan offered a personally conducted tour, including the lobby bathroom, to media persons interested in seeing the Sacramento jail facility and learning about how their procedures operate in practice.

On Monday a unanimous resolution was passed by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors condemning homophobia and heterosexism and the actions of the Sacramento Police and Sheriffs Departments. Doonan labeled that resolution, "premature." Assemblyman John Burton (D-San Francisco) said his office would launch an investigation into the complaints and reportedly San Francisco Mayor Art Agnos' office is voicing his concerns over the protestors treatment. Supervisor Harry Britt has attempted to contact Sacramento Mayor Anne Rudin, however, she is quoted as saying she has, as yet, received no formal complaints. Dohm, who is also the Sacramento police liaison to the Sacramento gay and lesbian community, said, "All complaints will be investigated by our Internal Investigations Department. The time it takes depends on the type of investigation it is and how detailed it needs to be. The results of the investigation will not be released to the media because that's personnel matters. Any lawful information resulting from the investigation will be released to the complainants."▼

commentary



(Note: This is the first regular column by MGW Managing Editor Jim Walker)

Hell no...

Looking for an angle on the war for a gay newspaper is not easy. Sure, there are certainly gays that are part of the peace movement, and yes, enlisted gay men and lesbians continue to face struggles with the military, but still, it is hard to narrow the issue enough for it to be gay specific. War effects everyone.

It had not really hit me that we were going to war until I saw the picture of our President that Sunday before January 15. The pain and frustration that causes war to begin was written on his face. The word "draft" suddenly crossed my mind with images of the movie "Born on the Fourth of July" showing like a late-night movie.

Being gay, 21 years-old, the last thing I ever thought I might die from is war. I thought we had come too far as human beings and that the stupidity of the power games we play would be realized. I thought wrong.

Regardless of the reasons, war is never right, murder is never right. Anyone remember "Thou shall not kill?" Didn't Mommy and Daddy always tell you it was wrong to hurt others?

For freedom? Whose freedom? If Saddam controls Kuwait forever, is my freedom threatened? If Bush would have waited for sanctions to work and risked looking like a wimp, would my freedom had been at risk?

Could Saddam control the world through oil? Not if the world refused to purchase it from him. We would continue to buy from Saudi Arabia and other countries as we have for years. We could make due with oil from Iraq. Believe me, the American people are survivors and we would survive it. God knows the same greed that motivates Saddam is what motivated automakers in the early fifties to hinder, destroy and buy-off people with plans to make electric cars. If I thought it would save the life of an American or an Iraqi, I would gladly forgo my car. No human life is ever equal to a possession.

The Iraqis are not the enemy; the enemy is within each of us -- the need to have power and control another.

The only cause worth fighting for is freedom. My freedom as an American is not in danger. At no time has Saddam ever said he planned to attack on United States soil. I'm not fighting for Bush, for oil, for Kuwait or for our Israeli friends.

My life is worth something, and I won't be used by a President that has nothing to lose but his image in history.

I repeat: I don't believe this war is about freedom.

Besides war.... life continues.....

Regardless of where SCUD missiles hit today, life goes on and you're still faced with that daily exercise of frustration otherwise known as life.

While I'm sure some of the profoundness (some I told) of the profoundness is going to be lost here, for the life of me, I can't get over the feeling that appearances are all important. Ever feel like if you don't exercise and don't tan and don't eat exactly as you should that no one will want you? If you are young or younger, seems like that feeling comes easily if you don't yet have a defined career (sometimes it comes even if you do). Too much worth is connected with appearance.

I love coffee shops, especially old grimy ones that look like they haven't changed since the fifties. They accept everyone and often, that middle-aged waitress named Maybelene, calls you "hun," "honey" or "sugar." She doesn't give a damn what you look like, life has been hard for her, but she's had a good time and most of all, she's had humor in her life.

The coffee shop is also a metaphor for the old adage "Don't judge a book by its cover." The place may look terrible, but the cheeseburger is unbelievable (80 percent fat notwithstanding). Of course, you would only order the cheeseburger if you were never going to leave the coffeeshop because surely no one would want to see where that fat ended-up.

More on this next time.....

-- Jim Walker▼

BOYCOTT LIST

These businesses do not support the gay community:

- **Burger King**
- **Carl's Jr.**
- **Marlboro cigarettes (Phillip Morris)**
- **Sacramento Union**

National Coming Out Day provides handy hints

National Coming Out Day has available guidelines for individuals and community groups that wish to increase their effectiveness.

"Guidelines For Obtaining Local Media Coverage," "Starting Your Own Support Group," "Coming Out As A Community" are useful handouts available at no charge.

"Our promise to be a resource for community activists is well under way," said Lynn Shepodd, executive director of National Coming Out Day. "The single most powerful act we gay or lesbian people can do is to take our next step in the coming out process. NCOD's job, in part, is to support us in doing that effectively. Providing support materials is just a part of that effort."

To obtain community support materials, or to get more information about being an Official Sponsor of National Coming Out Day, contact NCOD at Box 8349, Santa Fe, NM 87504 or call 1-800-445-NCOD.▼

Be a part of the Ad Sales team at MGW

Call 441-6397 for information

happenings

1991 International Ms Leather Contest

International Ms Leather, Inc. has announced their fifth annual International Ms Leather Contest to be held on Saturday, March 23, from 3-8pm at Club Townsend, 177 Townsend St., San Francisco.

Contestant applications are available by calling Sky Renfro at 415-871-0350 or by writing to International Ms Leather, Inc. 2215 R Market St., San Francisco 94114. The deadline is March 1.

For information: 415-871-0350, or 415-282-1118.▼

Dungeons and Castles Tour 1991 details set

"Dungeons and Castles of Europe: The Leatherman's Tour," the first tour of its kind, will be offered twice this year by Travel keys Tours of California.

Each 21-day tour consists of two 10-day sections; each section can be taken spearately. In addition to dungeons and castles, the tour includes after-dark events, exclusive use of a French chateau and its dungeons and special bar and club nights. The spring tour is from April 13 to May 6.

Interested persons should contact: Travel Keys Tours, 452-5200.▼

Helping in the fight against AIDS

Such artists, photographers and craftsmen as David Hockney, Ellsworth Kelly, Jasper Johns, Dianne Arbus and Bruce Weber have donated works to the fifth arts auction organized by the Gay Men's Health Crisis in New York. The auction will be on March 5 at Sotheby's. Tickets will run from $100 to $1000 but the exhibit will be open to the public. The exhibit runs from March 2 to March 5 and the organization hopes to raise more than $1 million dollars.▼

Meet The Grantmakers

The Sierra Foundation has announced the third bi-annual Meet The Grantmakers Forum a special event for the nonprofit sector.

Meet The Grantmakers is a one-day conference April 9 featuring representatives from seven regional and national foundations. They will discuss their grantmaking programs in a morning panel session, and will be available individually to answer your questions in afternoon workshops. The keynote speaker will be Michael Pertschuk, co-director of the Advocacy Institute in Washington, D.C.

Featured Foundations will be: S.H. Cowell Foundation, James Irvine Foundation, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, W.K. Kellogg Foundation, Mervyn's, Stuart Foundations, and The Sierra Foundation.▼

Minding Your Own Business

"Minding Your Own Business" The Sacramento Women's Center is presenting a half day workshop for women who wish to open their own business, Saturday, February 23, from 8am to 12noon, at 2306 J St., #200.

Women are starting new business ventures at a rate 1.5 times faster than men. According to government statistics, by the turn of the century women will own 36 percent of all U.S. nonfarm sole proprietorships. The Women's Center has created a program which considers the special needs of women.

Space is limited. Workshop fees for those who register and pay before February 15: $30 per ticket/$50 for two tickets. For those who pay at the door: $38 per ticket/$66 for two tickets. Checks are tax deductible and made payable to the Sacramento Women's Center, a nonprofit organization. Call 441-4207 for information.▼

Garbeau's Dinner Theatre opens new V.I.P. Club

Garbeau's Dinner Theatre has opened a new V.I.P. Club. Garbeau's has established a reputation for quality theatre and fine dining since 1981, and now they bring forth their entertainment experience in the creation of Sacramento's exclusive gathering place for people in the entertainment industry, would be artists and patrons of the arts and entertainment field. Garbeau's V.I.P. Club will commence at 10:30pm each night, following the curtain of its current production. Select specialties from the menu will be available along with Espresso and full bar service.

The Theatre is located in the historic Nimbus Winery, Highway 50 at Hazel in Rancho Cordova.▼

Blisters for Sisters Run now "Camellia Classic" run & walk

A "Camellia Classic" Run, Walk and Kids' Event -- a fundraiser for the Chemical Dependency Center For Women -- will officially kick off Sacramento's famed Camellia Festival March 3.

In past years, the race was called the "Blisters for Sisters Fun Run," and was a benefit for several womens' service agencies. The renamed race is now sponsored by the CDCW, with all proceeds going directly into that agency's programs for prevention and treatment of drug and alcohol addiction among women and their families. The CDCW is a non-profit United Way affiliate agency.

"Our hope is that the event's designation as the "official run" of the Camellia Festival will broaden CDCW's exposure and consequently, support the fundraising effort necessary to provide vital services to our community" explained Carol Casaday, executive director of the Center.

The 1991 Camellia Classic Run, Walk and Kid's Event is soliciting the support of Sacramento's business community. CDCW's Casaday said the event is an excellent vehicle for corporate exposure, goodwill and community involvement. A variety of sponsorship opportunities are available for organizations that want access to runners and walkers -- whose demographic statistics rate them among the most desirable of all consumer groups.

Sponsorship information may be obtained by calling Casaday at 448-2951.▼

*More **Happenings** on page 18*

under the dome

River City Democrat Club starts a new year with new leaders

by Jim Walker
MANAGING EDITOR

Sacramento's River City Democratic Club is starting 1991 with new leaders. The new officers were chosen January 23 after nominations at an earlier meeting.

Elected as President were Lou Camera and Judy Ludwick; Michael Madden was chosen as Secretary; the new Treasurer is Sandy Virago; Stan Hadden becomes Legislative Chair; Mary Smith and Robert Jordan will head the Political Action Committee; Membership responsibilities will be directed by Terry Chysler; Ed Condon and Michael Varacalli are the new Finance Chairs; Marghe Covino and Keith Johnson will function as Community Liason Chairs; outgoing President Karl Greene steps down to head Public Relations and Alan Lofaso will plan programs for future meetings.

The guest at the January 23 meeting was State Senator Lucy Killea. During her 45-minute speech, she talked about the state's new governor, AIDS, and several other subjects.

Killea, a San Diego City Councilwoman in the 1970's and a State Assembly member first in 1982 and again in 1989, has faced battles with reverends and conservative politicians who targeted her prochoice stance.

During her campaign for State Senate, Killea, a Catholic, ran ads on San Diego TV stating her prochoice stand and the religious community reacted. The Reverend Leo T. Maher, Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of San Diego wrote in a letter to the Senator: "...your pro-choice position on abortion is completely contradictory to the moral teachings of the Catholic Church....I have no choice but to deny you the right to receive the eucharist in the Catholic Church."

"I had worked it (how I felt) in my mind, so I was solid about it," said Killea. "I'm still anti-abortion. I wouldn't recommend it to anyone, but everyone must decide for themselves."

As for the new governor, Killea said she had few reservations and urged gays to concentrate on pressuring the Attorney General. When asked what she would do to stop AIDS, the Senator replied: "What we have to do in a broad sense is prevention- and more responsibility must be put on the male."

Councilwoman Killea also told RCDC members what she thought ending discrimination is all about. "A lot of it is just understanding differences in people and we are working on getting that into schools."

Killea also answered questions about Proposition 140, the term limit issue passed by California voters last November. "I think it has a good chance of being thrown-out on constitutional grounds," she said. While capitol staffers are worried about their jobs, Killea says she will lose some people but not as many as some other lawmakers. She says she has "less to lose."

In the election to decide who will replace 1st District Senator John Doolittle, who was elected to Congress, Greene made a plea for democrats to be active in supporting Patti Madingly, a Siskiyou County Supervisor. The election is March 19th.

Greene also urged RCDC members to attend the next California Democratic Convention, March 1-3. Volunteer positions and a reduced hotel rate are available. The convention will be held in Oakland.

In one of his last acts as President, Green thanked Charles Miller for becoming a lifetime member of RCDC and then making a friend a lifetime member as well. It was also announced that Joan Stone will compile information on the 9 year history of RCDC.

The meeting ended after Sandy Virago gave Greene a warm thank-you. "I would just like to take this opportunity to thank Karl for making this group a place where women can really be comfortable."

Greene noted that the audience when the evening began was nearly 50 percent female. "We have made great progress in getting more women here and getting programs interesting to everyone."

The next meeting of RCDC is Tuesday, February 12.▼

Harris helps heal rift between politicians

by M.R. Richards
OF MGW STAFF

Sacramento, CA -- While Assemblymember John Burton (D-San Francisco) promotes his "gay marriage" bill, San Francisco's Jean Harris may have facilitated an even more unlikely union -- the reconciliation of Burton and newly-elected Supervisor Roberta Achtenberg.

Reportedly, Burton contacted Achtenberg and asked for her help with his AB 167 which is legislation to amend Section 4100 and 4101 of the Civil Code, relating to marriage. Basically the bill changes the language of the sections to read that marriage is a civil contract "between two persons" rather than "between a man and a woman" as it now reads. Throughout the sections the language is altered to reflect the change.

Achtenberg has long been a proponent of domestic partners and gay marriage legislation. Reportedly, Harris, during last week's visit to the Capitol, pointed out to Burton that Achtenberg's expertise and networking on the issue would be invaluable to the success and passage of the legislation.

Insiders say that Harris, an accomplished political strategist, saw the opportunity to further the chances of the bill but also perceived that a joint effort on the legislation would help to heal the rift caused by the bitterly-fought Assembly race between the two powerful liberal Democrats. Apparently Harris' efforts were successful and Burton and Achtenberg are working together for the passage of AB 167.▼

Possible trouble for 'family' bill

by M.R. Richards
OF MGW STAFF

Sacramento, CA -- A ripple of surprise and some concern ran through gay and lesbian legislative staff offices late Tuesday afternoon, Jan. 22. A spot bill, SB 192, was introduced in the State Senate by Senator Newton Russell (R-Glendale) which "will amend the Corporations Code as it relates to nonprofit corporations." At question is whether SB 192 is intended to amend that section of the Corporations Code which allows families of different configurations to register officially with the Secretary of State's office.

In early December, the Family Diversity Project in Los Angeles, announced a new procedure which would allow the legal registration of domestic partners, foster families, stepfamilies, guardianship families and other family groups. To date, according to Thomas Coleman, Executive Director of the Family Diversity Project, approximately 200 families, primarily heterosexual have availed themselves of the registry through the Secretary of State's office. Many more have made direct inquiries to his project at P.O. Box 65756, Los Angeles, CA, 90065, for information kits regarding registry.

There is the possibility that Russell's bill is intended to plug the loophole which would allow such registration. Manny Zamorano, Russell's staff person assigned to the bill, was guarded and monosyllabic in his answers about the bill. He said he did not know the intent of the bill, that language for the bill has not yet been written and that just the "spot" (hence the term, spot bill) had been reserved for the bill. He could not or would not give further information and when asked if another staff member might be closer to the project and have more information merely said, "No."

Coleman was somewhere in San Francisco and not available for comment, however, Rev. Jerry Sloan in Sacramento said, "We don't need to let this waltz through -- this is something we need to keep track of -- 12 years ago they changed civil code which altered the language in the marriage bill from `between two people' to `between a man and a woman' and it got through because we weren't ready -- we can't let that happen again -- we're ready now."

Laurie McBride, Executive Director of the Lobby for Individual Freedom and Equality (LIFE) said, "Given Newt Russell's past history this could very well be an attack on the right of Californians to define and register their own families through the Secretary of State's office."

In legislative offices gay and lesbian staff members are alerted and are closely following the path SB 192 might take.▼

Happy Valentine's Day from MGW

1990 banner year for sodomy law repeal

Lesbian and gay activists at the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) are marking 1990 as a watershed year for legislative and legal battles to repeal and reform sodomy laws.

Three major state court challenges -- in Kentucky, Michigan and Texas -- received significant lower court boosts last year and reflect the growing momentum for sodomy law reform since the anti-gay *Bowers vs. Hardwick* Supreme Court ruling in 1986.

In Kentucky and Michigan, judges last summer struck from the books those states' sodomy laws. The cases were brought by lesbian and gay people who argued that the sodomy laws violate their rights to privacy as recognized under state constitutions. Appeals of both lower court rules are likely to be filed.

In Texas, a Travis County district court judge on December 10 struck down the Texas homosexual-specific sodomy law with the simple sentence, "I declare this law unconstitutional."

Five Texas lesbian and gay activists had filed suit to challenge the Texas law, commonly called 21.06. The lower court decision in the case, *Morales et al*, may be appealed by the newly elected Texas Attorney General Dan Morales. *Morales* is thought to be friendly to the gay and lesbian community.

During the recent gubernatorial campaign, Texas governor-elect Ann Richards won her race with overwhelming support from lesbians and gay men. Richards repeatedly called for repeal of 21.06 in her campaign speeches. Attorney General-elect Morales, having been less direct than Richards, is expected to mount a friendly appeal.

Laurie Eiserloh of the Texas Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby said "We want an appeal by the state. Without a ruling from our highest court, Morales will have limited value. We will again file a bill to repeal 21.06 in the '91 legislative session, in the event our optimism about the appeal proves wrong."

A more ominous note was sounded in Maryland last year when that state's Supreme Court disqualified heterosexual Marylanders from prosecution under the state's felony sodomy statute. The ruling left in place "sodomy and perverted practices" as it applies to sex in private between consenting homosexual adults. The ruling, however, provoked cries of outrage and protest from Maryland's strong and well-organized lesbian and gay community, who have vowed a renewed legislative repeal campaign.

"Overall, 1990 was the most productive year of repeal and reform work for the gay community," said former NGLTF Privacy Project director Sue Hyde. "Notwithstanding the Maryland setback, I cannot think of a more uplifting note on which to end the year than with a Texas victory. The momentum at the state level, spurred by the crushing but temporary defeat of *Hardwick* is now solidly in our direction."

Other sodomy repeal news in 1990 included:

-- The first-ever and highly successful lobby day in Jefferson City, Missouri, organized by the Privacy Rights Education Project of St. Louis to press for repeal of that state's homosexual specific sexual misconduct law;

-- An unsuccessful repeal drive in Georgia following a court ruling that narrowed that state's felony sodomy statute to unmarried heterosexuals and homosexuals;

-- The recommendation of a legislatively mandated criminal code revision commission in Oklahoma to delete that state's sodomy law from the penal code; the recommendation is scheduled to go to the state legislature in January 1991;

-- Renewed lobbying in Tennessee to seek full repeal of the Tennessee crimes against nature law that in 1989 was narrowed to criminalize same-sex behavior only;

-- The stunning revelation by retired U.S. Supreme Court Justice Lewis Powell that he made a "mistake" and now regrets his deciding vote in *Bowers v. Hardwick;*

-- A massive demonstration and civil disobedience in Atlanta, Georgia, to protest the sodomy law.▼

Pressure on Soviet officials turned up

In a series of hard-hitting communiques to government officials in Leningrad, Moscow and Washington, D.C., the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) has condemned the recent increase in anti-gay harassment of Soviet gay activists and called for immediate U.S. and U.S.S.R. government intervention.

NGLTF has written the Soviet ambassador to the U.S., the city councils of Leningrad and Moscow, the U.S. State Department and Amnesty International to pressure Soviet officials to stop the harassment. The Task Force's actions came after alarming reports of anti-gay activity surfaced through international gay channels and media.

Reports indicated the murder of Alexander Lukeshev, openly gay editor of *New Life*, a pro-democracy publication; the detention of Olga Zhuk, who has been charged with violation of Soviet Article 121.1, which criminalizes anal intercourse between men (although Olga is a lesbian); and the harassment of Roman Kalinin, founder of the Moscow Gay and Lesbian Union (MGLU) and editor of *Tema*, the only gay newspaper in the Soviet Union. Kalinin spoke at a plenary assembly of NGLTF's Creating Change Conference last November in Minneapolis, MN.

Kalinin and other activists in Moscow suspect the grotesque murder of openly gay editor Lukeshev is the work of the KGB. Lukeshev's body had been mutilated. Kalinin himself has repeatedly been threatened with arrest and was recently forced to leave his apartment. Subsequent reports indicate that Olga Zhuk has been cleared of all charges.

NGLTF has written city commissioners of Moscow and Leningrad, as well as Alexander Bessmertnykh, the Soviet Ambassador to the U.S., condemning these attacks and denouncing increased harassment of gay men and lesbians. The Task Force has also contacted U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and other officials at the State Department requesting that they urge the Soviets to stop the attacks on lesbians and gay men.

U.S. Congressman Barney Frank has cabled Moscow and Leningrad officials and has written the Soviet Ambassador condemning the attacks. Rep. Frank previously has interceded in cases of harassment and persecution of Jews and others in the Soviet Union.

NGLTF urges all concerned individuals to speak out against these attacks on basic human rights. Address your letters to:

U.S.S.R., Moscow, Moscovet, Mr. Gavrill Popov, The Commission for Social and Political Organizations

U.S.S.R., Leningrad, City Council, Ilsakovskaya Ploshad 6, The Commission for Social and Political Organizations

Honorable Alexander Bessmertnykh, Ambassador, Embassy of the U.S.S.R., 1 Andrei Sakharov Plaza, Washington, D.C. 20036

Honorable James A. Baker III, Secretary of State, Dept. of State, Rm. 7226, 2201 C St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20520

Copy all letters to John Healey, executive director, Amnesty International-USA, 322 8th Ave., New York, N.Y., 10001, and International Secretariat, Amnesty International, 1 Easton St., London WC1X-8DJ England.▼

Lawsuit for prisoner privacy rights

The American Civil Liberties Union, on behalf of prisoners in San Francisco County jail and a former jail doctor, sued the San Francisco sheriff and city health officials, seeking to preserve confidentiality of medical reports.

Under provisions of Proposition 96, passed by voters in November, 1988, medical personnel in jails and prisons who receive "information" that an inmate "has been exposed to or infected by" the AIDS virus must pass such information on to an officer in charge.

The officer in charge must then tell "the substance" of such information to any employee or volunteer who may have direct contact with an inmate.

The ACLU argues that such dissemination of information is a violation of inmates' right to privacy, and that the state has no "compelling interest" in disclosing such information.

"Medical experts agree that the only way to protect correction workers from exposure to HIV is to treat all inmates as if they were infected and to use necessary precautions," said Jeff Cole, an attorney with Jackson, Cole, Tufts and Black, a private firm working with the ACLU.

"Singling out, by fact or rumor, inmates who are supposedly HIV infected can cause them great harm from discrimination within jails and prisons," said ACLU staff attorney Matt Coles.

The ACLU suit, filed today in San Francisco Superior Court, asks that San Francisco Sheriff Michael Hennessey and San Francisco health department officials be enjoined from implementing the reporting provisions of Proposition 96, now Health and Safety Code Section 199.99.

The plaintiff's request for a preliminary injunction was scheduled to be heard on January 31. Until a decision has been reached, the Sheriff's Department and the Health Department have agreed to not enforce the reporting law.

The suit was filed on behalf of unnamed inmates, and a patient of Dr. Lisa Capaldini, a former San Francisco jail doctor now in private practice.▼

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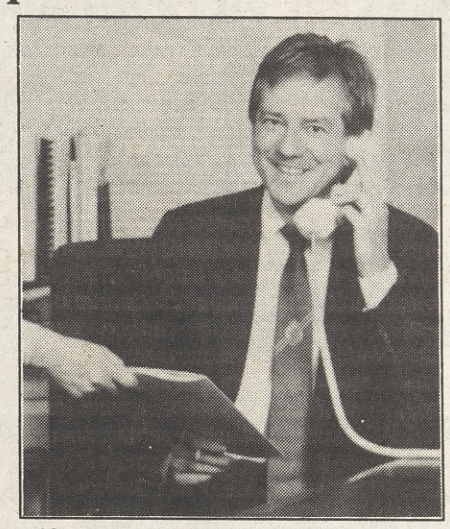

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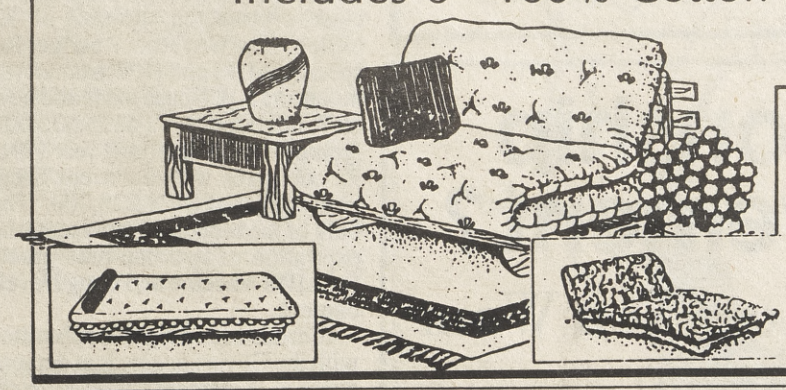

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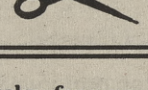

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AIDS Action League questioned

by Jim Walker
MANAGING EDITOR

The AIDS Action League of Sacramento, a group that identifies itself as a non-profit organization educating the community about AIDS, may not be exactly what it seems.

According to a January 20 story in the Sacramento Bee, the AAL is spending the bulk of its funds on directors' salaries and a door-to-door fund-raising operation the group calls "community awareness."

Standards for non-profit organizations require at least half of an agency's funds be used for program services. Directors say the community awareness project is designed to help people learn more about AIDS.

The canvassers do talk to people about the disease and hand-out photocopied articles about women with AIDS, but according to workers, they have nightly fund-raising quotas and their pay is directly related to how much money they raise.

The agency also runs a transitional home for people with AIDS, but only one woman with children has lived there since it opened last March. The other 14 residents have been males.

The agency's finances were first brought into question by a former employee and the Better Business Bureau, which is finishing a report comparing the AAL's fund-raising efforts to those of other non-profit organizations.

Marc Keyser, AAL President and Founder, says the group doesn't pretend to be perfect and that the organization has acted within reasonable and responsible limits.

The National Charities Information Bureau, the organization that tracks where charities are or are not spending their money, requires groups like AAL to spend at least 60 percent of their funds of programs.

Keyser says his agency spends 75 percent of its $228,796 budget on programs and about 25 percent on administration. But according to financial reports obtained from the ALL by the Bee, there is a conflict.

An AAL balance sheet from November shows that $94,418 was spent on programs - about 52 percent. Another statement some ten days later showed a jump to $128,432 or 67 percent. Finally, in a draft released on January 17, the AAL claims $170,000 or 75 percent was spent on programs last year.

Keyser told the Bee that the earlier figures were broken down improperly and said it was because of problems with a computer program.

All three financial forms list the canvassing operation as a program, something the Better Business Bureau has questioned.

Keyser is angry about a letter the bureau sent him asking for his 1990 balance sheet. He said the letter is "accusatory" and that information the BBB has provided to donators has cost AAL money.

The BBB says it has just applied the same standards to the ALL it to any other charity. The BBB began its investigation only after questions from citizens.▼

HIV felony proposal sent to legislator

by M.R. Richards
OF MGW STAFF

Sacramento, CA -- Ventura County Deputy District Attorney Vincent J. O'Neill, Jr. last week sent proposed legislation to state Senator Ed Davis (R-Santa Clara), asking him to carry a bill which would, in part, establish a new felony offense for engaging in sexual activity or needle sharing and not disclosing positive HIV status. The proposed bill would create exceptions to existing confidentiality provisions and limits on testing for court-ordered searches, disclosures and testing to assist in criminal investigations.

Suggested provisions of the bill provide that if intent is established that a person wilfully tried to infect another with HIV that person is guilty of a felony punishable by life imprisonment with possibility of parole but no eligibility for probation. Another provision states that any person who engages in unprotected sexual activity with another or who shares a hypodermic needle with another even when that person knows he or she is infected with HIV, that person is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment in the state prison for three, six or nine years. In another provision, any person who engages in protected sexual activity but does not disclose his or her HIV-positive status to the sexual partner, that person is guilty of a crime punishable by confinement in the county jail for up to one year or by imprisonment in the state prison.

The six-page memorandum which outlined the felonies and enhancements for male to female and male to male sexual activity was inspired by the now-famous Ventura county case in which a 15-count grand jury indictment held David Crother, a 45-year-old unemployed carpenter to answer for knowingly infecting a woman and the child he allegedly fathered with HIV. Because there is no specific crime under which he could be charged the man was held on 15 counts of assault with a deadly weapon.

When Davis' office received the proposed legislation they began consulting with the Lobby for Individual Freedom and Equality (LIFE). According to Laurie McBride, LIFE Executive Director, "We're appreciative of the fact that Senator Davis' office initiated discussion with us about the proposed bill. We don't doubt his intent and sincerity based on the Ventura district attorney's request. He obviously thinks this bill will do something good and necessary." McBride said the LIFE lobby has opposed this type of measure in the past. She said there are particular concerns that the provisions are unenforceable and that there is a great potential for malicious misuse of such a measure. "Such a bill creates the wrongful impression that people with HIV area rampaging around the state wilfully infecting people. Proponents of the bill are not recognizing the power of public health officials to question, investigate and isolate people. Some people may be intractable, have dementia for example or a medical component might exist that must be taken into account which criminal investigators would not necessarily recognize."

McBride said that LIFE board members are working with Davis' office and that discussions are ongoing "in good faith on the issue." She said that LIFE will continue to work with the situation and that they, along with Davis' office, are researching viable alternatives such as being able to remand such individuals into the custody of public health officers for evaluation.▼

Governor Wilson unveils AIDS budget

Newly elected Governor Pete Wilson unveiled a $55.7 billion budget with proposed cuts in health, welfare, and education programs to close a projected shortfall of $7 billion. The Governor's budget for specific AIDS and HIV account for mounting AIDS case loads and new HIV infections. A $125,526,000 proposed budget for fiscal year 1991-92 compares with a current fiscal year budget of $128,228,000. The bulk of the reduction represents the expiration of two one-time grants for AIDS Vaccine and Drug Development.

Administration figures submitted with the Governor's budget demonstrate a 26 percent increase in reported AIDS cases from 1989 to 1990. "While the new administration is far more open and sympathetic to the deepening crisis than Deukmejian's, it will be difficult to get increases from a budget with a $7 billion deficit," commented LIFE Lobby Executive Director Laurie McBride. "However, the bottom line is that this budget would give our programs no new money to meet the challenge of an increasing caseload, in care and treatment, in prevention education, we simply cannot spread the money any thinner than we already have."

Federal funds included in the Governor's proposed budget include existing programs which have been folded into the CARE Act. New funds to the state under Title II of the bill are expected to be approximately $5.3 million. (Final figures will not be available until after the deadline for California to submit its plan for disbursement of new federal funds on March 1.) These new funds will be added to the estimated $11.4 million that impacted cities of Alameda-Contra Costa, Los Angeles, San Diego, and San Francisco can expect to receive from the federal government.

"Governor Wilson indicated during the campaign that his administration would be accessible to input on state funding issues," added McBride. "Our position is that the state should make up all dollars that were authorized by the CARE bill, but were not appropriated. This figure amounts to about $85 million.

The Governor's overall budget for health and human services programs also contains cuts in areas that will adversely affect services of persons with AIDS. Elimination of state support for some county public and mental health services is proposed to be substituted for increased taxing authority for local governments. The Governor also proposed to suspend cost-of-living adjustments (COLA's) for Medi-Cal, Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Program (SSI/SSP) grants, and the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) program. He has also proposed a reduction in the standard Aid to Families with Dependent Child (AFDC) monthly grant from $694 to $633 which could impact women with AIDS.▼

HIV newsline

by Sonya Cox
HIV EDITOR

Good news about AIDS babies..

Children infected with the AIDS virus in the womb ar living longer and healthier lives than originally believed possible, according to research being conducted by a group of Bay Area physicians. The group says that half of all HIV-infected infants were free of symptoms by age five, whereas before it was thought that most would die before age two. It's thought that babies born to infected mothers have a 35 percent chance of becoming infected. The researchers project that the shorter incubation time for children (it's now averaging out at about 11 years for adults) will extend even further due early treatment. Additionally, it's not fully understood just when and how a child's own immune system begins to take over from its infected mother, and why some (about 20 percent) develop AIDS in the first year of life with an incubation period averaging four months, and others (about 25 percent) are still healthy at age 10.

Oh, we didn't think of that...

The Centers for Disease Control has recommended against a nationwide survey to sample the population at large for HIV. CDC was pleased with the response from volunteers in Pittsburgh, one of the test cities, where 81 percent of those contacted said they would be willing to donate blood for AIDS testing. But researchers soon determined that those people who DECLINED to participate were more than twice as likely to be in those high risk groups (drugs users or gay males) most likely to have the virus.

Three now positive after dental visit...

Three people have now tested positive with the AIDS virus after visits with Florida dentist David Acer, who recently died of the disease. Investigators still have no idea how this could have happened, if indeed Acer was the source of the infection. They are currently examining several possibilities, among them whether Acer may have contaminated his equipment after working on his own teeth, or worked on the teeth of an infected friend, and then used the improperly sanitized, contaminated instruments on his other patients. If this turns out to be the case, it will refocus attention on whether medical personnel are following proper infection control procedures, and away from the issue of which individual dentists have AIDS. At this time, approximately 5,000 health care workers in this country have AIDS, including 144 dentists. These people have performed thousands of procedures on patients, and there has never been any other documented case of transmission. Hospitals have never been totally risk-free; adverse reactions to medications and medical negligence have occurred more than once in the past. But never has anyone suggested removing a medication from the market because on person had a reaction to it, or closing down an operating room because someone died in it. Scientific information does not support removing qualified health care workers from their jobs because of a random incident. Any new CDC recommendations should emphasize the contiuation of already-approved precautions for patients, and at the same time protect our health care workers, without discriminating against either. A sideline to the Acer story is that one of the infected patients is suing the dental health plan that provided her with Dr. Acer's name. The Florida Supreme Court ruled, in another case, that corporations have an "absolute duty to screen and investigate the competency of its doctors."

AIDS removed from U.S. list...

Effective June 1, AIDS will be officially removed from the list of illnesses that can prevent foreign visitors from entering the United States, thus rescinding an act of discrimination that has no foundation in medicine or science. The foolish and embarrassing policy listing AIDS as a disease easily passed by casual contact went into effect through a 1987 amendment sponsored by Senator Jesse Helms. Its removal recognizes that, until a cure for AIDS emerges -- and no one knows when, if ever, that may happen -- the world's most potent weapon is shared information.

AIDS Action League under spotlight...

Sacramento's AIDS Action League, a forerunner in meeting the needs of what, over the next five to 10 years, could be an overwhelming need for housing and referral assistance for women with AIDS, recently came under question by the Better Business Bureau for what they say could be discrepancies in AAL's spending policy. An AAL spokesperson said the organization raises the funds for its programs and for the mortgage on its recently purchased AIDS transitional home through door-to-door donations, reaching nearly 5000 people a week with AIDS information and requests for support. A recent article in the *Sacramento Bee* about the AAL/Better Business Bureau controversy suggested that, for the charity to meet standards, at least 50 percent of their funds must be spent on programs. The AAL states that door-to-door collections and distribution of AIDS information are separate activities with distinct differences in compensation to those carrying them out. They say the Better Business Bureau has stated that direct, personal communication in a person's home about AIDS is of no value. The AAL stands firm that AIDS awareness is indeed a major part of their contact with the public, and that compensation of their outreach workers is a legitimate expense of the agency.

Pinpointing the best...

In anticipation of FDA approval of DDI and DDC this year, San Francisco researchers have developed what they hope will be viable "markers" in the blood of HIV-positive people that will be able to show which antiviral medicine (AZT, DDC or DDC) would work best for each person. People must now try one, and then another if the first one fails. It is anticipated by many physicians, however, that a regimen of using AZT plus DDI or DDC on an alternating basis will prove to be the best treatment.
Another bacteria warning...
As of March 1 the California health department will require anyone selling Gulf of Mexico oysters to warn purchasers about the risk that a bacterium in the oysters can produce a potentially fatal infection in people with compromised immune systems. (DO NOT eat raw or undercooked meat or fish if you're HIV-positive!!!)

MIT and Harvard area covered...

Clifford's Grill became the first restaurant in Cambridge, Massachusetts, to comply -- a year early! -- with an ordinance passed November 5 ordering all hotels, motels, restaurants, and bars in that city to install condom vending machines. The ordinance is the first of its kind in the nation. It's estimated that as many as 3,000 Cambridge residents, centrally located between Harvard and MIT, are HIV positive. The city of about 100,000 also has 103 documented cases of full-blown AIDS.

Pentamidine windfall...

Since 1984, Fujisawa Pharmaceuticals of Illinois, which holds the exclusive monopoly on aerosolized pentamidine, has raised the wholesale cost of aero-pent from $25 to $99 a vial. The market for this lifesaving drug has grown from 6,000 in 1984 to 157,000 people to date diagnosed with AIDS. Additionally, many hundreds or thousands more are receiving aero-pent prior to an AIDS diagnosis. President Bush recently vetoed a bill that would have prevented such windfall profits.

Thank you to Dr. Bary Siegel for his medical oversight of this column, and to Dr. Elizabeth Harrison for her continuing contribution to its contents.t

AIDS fundraiser features casino revue performers and prizes

Looking for an excuse to come to Tahoe? The Fourth Annual Lake Tahoe AIDS Task Force Benefit is coming February 20 to Neros 2000 at Caesars Tahoe.

In the previous thredoor prizes from the South Shore community. Last year the Task Force raised over $8,000, making it one of the most successful benefits at Tahoe.

The 1991 fundraiser promises to be the most exciting yet. As of press date, the talented cast members from *Bottoms Up '91* -- Breck Wall, Jimmy Emmerson, Sue Motsinger and David Harris -- and *Risque Business* -- offbeat magician Mark Kornhauser, among others -- have committed to performing.

The benefit begins at 7pm with no-host bar, silent auction, door and raffle prizes. The show starts at 8:30. Admission is $10 per person and the monies raised will go toward programs sponsored by the Lake Tahoe AIDS Task Force, a bi-state, non-profit organization. For information: 916-542-0131. Room reservations at South Shore can be made by calling the Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority at 800-AT-TAHOE, or for lodging that caters to gay clientele, please call Tahoe Accommodations for Gays Property Management 702-541-6234.▼

City urges approval of new AIDS drugs

Rep. Tom Campbell (R-Stanford) urged the Food and Drug Administration to expedite its licensing review of two new AIDS drugs, ddI and ddC.

In a letter to FDA Commissioner David A. Kessler, Campbell stressed that the deadly and urgent nature of the disease necessitated a special, swifter approval process for AIDS drugs.

"There is growing evidence that these two drugs could lessen the suffering of many AIDS victims and maybe even extend their lives," Campbell said. "They have been in the approval process for years. Let's make them available to the people who need them.

"People with AIDS are people who are running out of time. For many of them, any drug that offers hope is worth trying. Many AIDS sufferers would eagerly accept the opportunity to take ddI or ddC right now -- even if the benefits were not guaranteed. At the very least, individuals should be given that choice."▼

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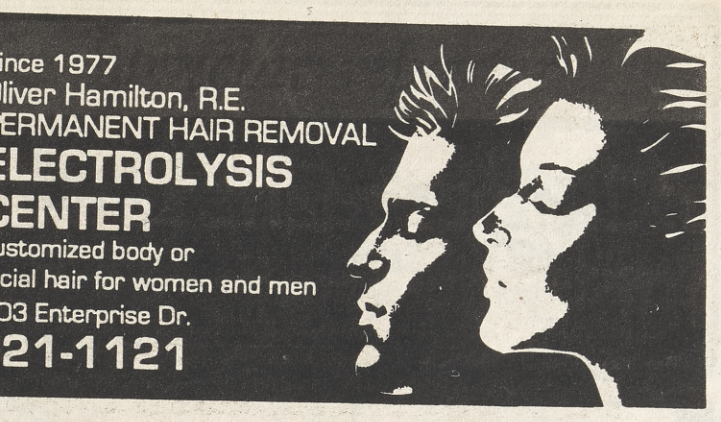

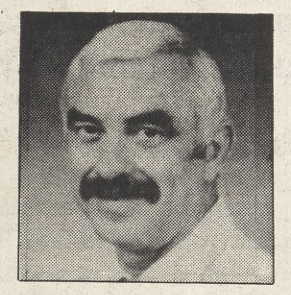

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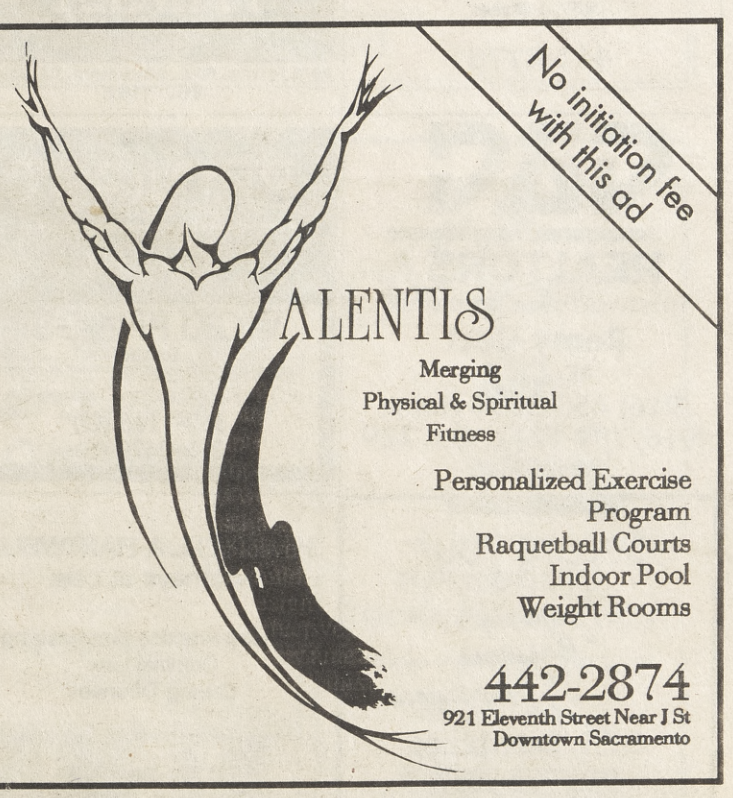

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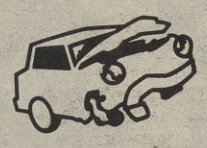

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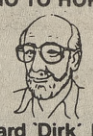

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local news

Author Loulan: Honor your relationship by telling everyone

She is an author and a nationally known speaker, and she uses the "L" word often - and for JoAnn Loulan, the "L" word is not the same one George Bush used in his last campaign.

The capital "L" stands for lesbian, and Loulan is dedicated to helping lesbians feel better about sex and feel better about themselves.

According to Loulan, that's when life started to change and she first realized her passion for helping people have healthy sex lives. Her emphasis at Lone Mountain College was in sexuality and, before leaving, she was presenting lectures on the subject at the University of California.

But she grew tired of men approaching her after the seminars and decided to return to her own community. She and a friend began giving weekend workshops about lesbian sex six to eight times year, while she maintained a private psychotherapy practice.

She is open about being a lesbian. Married for four years, divorced, she had a son by artificial insemination although she calls it "alternative insemination."

Loulan is the author of four books: she co-authored *Period*, with Maria Quackenbush and Bonnie Sankey in 1979. In 1984, her second book *Lesbian Sex* was published. What followed was a lecture tour and spots on *Oprah Winfrey* and *Phil Donahue*.

Her third book, *Lesbian Passion*, published in 1987, is based on her lecture series.

And her most recent book, *The Lesbian Erotic Dance: Butch, Femme and other Rhythms*, was the topic for this SACWN evening.

Part of her lecture includes a battle cry: "Let's be lesbians." By that, Loulan says she is tired of supporting the causes of straight women who don't support lesbian concerns.

"We have big hearts. We help abortionists, people with AIDS, the homeless, but are we doing for ourselves?"

Doing for yourself is what Loulan is all about. ▼

Author JoAnn Loulan, at the last SACWN event, signs her photo and book for Remy Ceci Photo/Kate Tavares

Loulan recently came to Sacramento where she spoke to the Sacramento Area Career Women's Network (SACWN).

While she insists she is not a comedian, Loulan uses humor to remove the difficulty involved in talking about lesbian sex.

Raised in a small Ohio town, Loulan, 40, attended Northwestern University where she studied political science and theater and later returned to graduate school at Lone Mountain College in San Francisco where she studied psychology.

Tchaikovsky anniversary celebrated

by Karl Greene
OF MGW STAFF

A great many of the western world's well known composers, conductors and musicians were/are gay, but the best known of them all is Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky. To this day, he remains Russia's best known composer and, probably, the best known composer of ballet music. Everyone who's heard of Christmas has heard Tchaikovsky's music for The Nutcracker ballet.

1990 was the 150th anniversary of Tchaikovsky's birth, so the Sacramento Symphony is playing a number of the great composer's works this season. This past month the orchestra played his Suite No. 4 subtitled Mozartiana. In two weeks, the orchestra will present his Symphony No. 1, Winter Dreams.

The finale of the symphony's celebration of Tchaikovsky will take place on April 21 and 22 with a Classical Pops! concert which is a MUST for lovers of Tchaikovsky. Carter Nice will lead the orchestra in March Slav, in suites from Sleeping Beauty and Swan Lake and, with pianist Clipper Erickson, in the ever-popular Piano Concerto No. 1.

The concert coming up in a couple of weeks, on February 15, 16 and 17, is an all-Russian program and will feature the symphony's principal cellist Lubomir Georgiev playing a cello concerto by Kabalevsky. The program also includes Rimsky-Korsakov's Russian Easter Overture and Tchaikovsky's first Symphony, as mentioned above.

Just a week later, on February 22, 23 and 24, that splendid pianist Andrew Lucchesini will play Mozart's Piano Concert No. 27 in B-flat. Lucchesini was here a couple of years ago to give us Grieg's piano concerto and what a treat it was! He's young, tall, handsome and a magnificent pianist!

For those who want to learn more about the music presented by the orchestra, the symphony is offering a music appreciation class this month entitled, "Critical Listening." The course will focus on form and analysis, a whole-work treatment of pieces from the upcoming symphony repertoire and performance criteria and critiques.

Additionally, an in-depth study of select composers, Stravinsky, Mozart, Ravel, Vivaldi, Prokoviev and Tchaikovsky, will be discussed. The class will convene for five two-hour sessions on February 12, 19, 26, March 5 and 12.

Brian Schweickardt, the symphony's solo clarinetist, will teach the course in a Bart Simpson format -- no pressure, no tests, no grades. Questions and discussions will be encouraged. The classes will be at 7:15pm at Keith Yates Audio, 2440 Fulton Ave. in the north area. The charge is $50. For information, call 649-0300.

This "Critical Listening" class is the second of two offered by the symphony. The first met for five sessions in January and provided a basic knowledge of instruments, music eras, themes, the conductor's role and the process of composition. ▼

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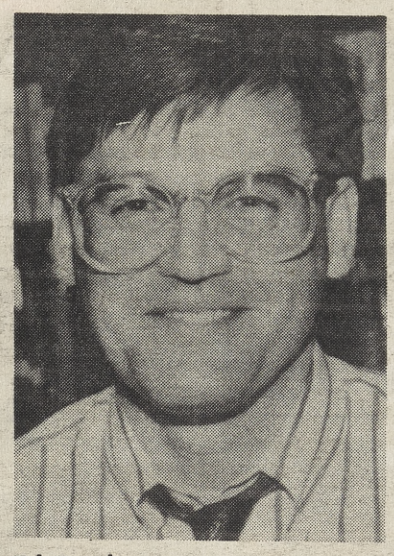
Q & A

What does this war mean to gays, if anything?

Photos by Pamela Coffey

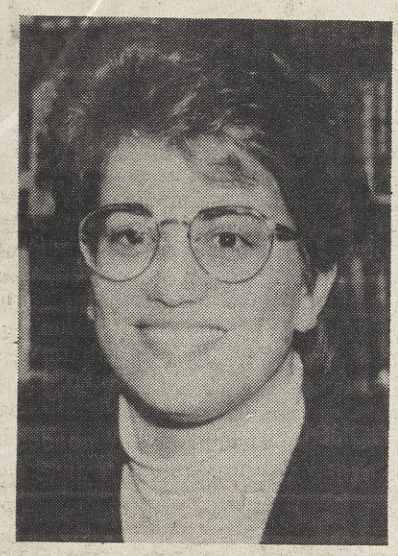
Alan Lofaso
RCDC

It stinks. This is a war that didn't have to happen. Of course, as a gay man, I'm well aware I can't fight in this war, not that I would want to. Not only can't I fight, I can't even give blood.



Ed Condon
River City Democrat Club

It means an increased fight for money. It cuts another piece out-of the pie. It means less money will be available for AIDS, for the homeless, and for social services.

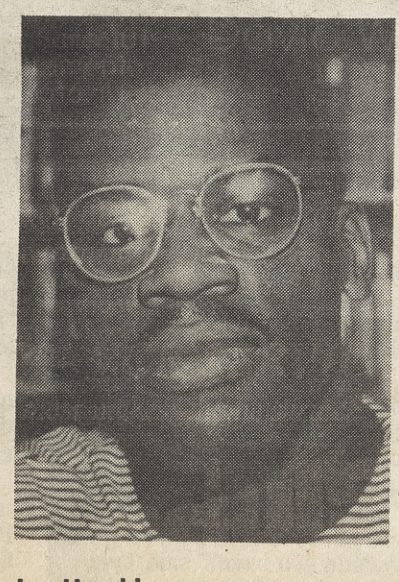


Mary Smith
GLAAD and RCDC

I think fhat for first time, gays and lesbians have a chance to stand out in front and say 'we're fit for service.' And we need to make sure we stay fit for service after the war.

Judy Ludwick
GLAAD and RCDC

It seems to be an opportunity for us to pressure for change. I think we have the opportunity to make some gains.



Joe Hawkins
Black Men's Exchange

I feel we have a war we're fighting right here on drugs, AIDS and poverty. There are a lot of things we're fighting here at home. I feel we need to fight our wars here.

Voice of hope rise in powerful concert

by John Mello
OF MGW STAFF

The River City AIDS Center presented a striking and moving evening concert at the Metropolitan Community Church on January 12. The fundraiser, titled "All that Music," offered more than a score of local artists performing inspirational, opera, country and popular songs, as well as harp and violin soloists. More than a concert of purely art for art's sake, it was also at times a frankly rollicking church service, a powerful affirmation of struggle and hope, as well as a bold statement of self-identity from several members of our HIV/PWA community. Having come directly from watching the 1977 Craig Russell film *Outrageous*, an earlier bold statement of gay identity, this reviewer was catapulted into the '90s by these defiant evangelists. The cultural diversity of our gay community, including such American as apple pie events like black-tie church socials, is invigorating.

There were many outstanding performers on the program, but several should be mentioned for their exceptional intensity. Billy Charles Cawley, a former street person, gave a believable interpretation of that previously unpalatable *You Are So Beautiful*, better known to Sacramento audiences as the pas de deux from the ballet *Motorcycle Parts*. Danny Freer, director of the local production company Getit, sang the inspirational *He Holds The Key* with a consuming fervor. Curtis Lymas, third generation of a distinguished local family of black musicians, unfolded his incredible gifts in two selections, the aria *Una Furtiva Lagrima* and the hymn *Amazing Grace*, the last sung a capella (which he also recently gave in the Senate Chamber at the State Capitol in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.). Chuck Vickers, music and choir director at River City Metropolitan Community Church, dazzled the audience with his high spirits, charm and expressiveness. The energy level throughout the evening was kept high by his presence in the audience as well. A special mention should be made of the warmth of their excellent emcee, Bert Kellogg, and of the efforts of the show's director, Kathy Ruhl. Hopefully it will be shown on local cable television.

The River City AIDS Center, chaired by Sandy O'Neill-King, is networking with other AIDS agencies to provide services that are lacking such as a bank of hospital furniture, emergency funds, funerals and other necessities. They have a support group that meets weekly, and provide spiritual counseling as well for those dealing with Christian issues and homosexuality. Plans include a respite, library or similar center where those affected can gather, a food closet that will take into account the needs of those on holistic diets, and possibly a hospice. Anyone having need of any of the River City AIDS Center's services may call the Metropolitan Community Church at 454-4762 for more information. Grants and donations are urgently needed so that the very ill may be more comfortably cared for at home. Please join in for those who haven't got *Someone To Watch Over Me.*▼

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Gays are changing love and marriage

Celeste West Photo/Laura Wilensky

by Dell Richards
OF MGW STAFF

Until recently, gay men and lesbians followed the heterosexual model of sex and marriage. Gay men played out the male role by getting as much sex as possible. Lesbians married -- often after the first date.

But in the past few years, gay men and lesbians have begun to move closer in their disparate patterns. In doing so, they are changing the traditional expectations of love.

"We are expanding the definition of relationships and changing the way we deal with one another," said Celeste West, author of *A Lesbian Love Advisor*.

By looking at the benefits of both lifestyles, gay men and lesbians have begun to combine the advantages of both to create newer, more human relationships.

Best known as the lesbian Miss Manners for her book on the art of courtship -- West has been observing and participating in these changes since the late 1960's when she began writing and publishing.

According to West, heterosexual models are based on concepts that have no relevance for gay men and lesbians.

"Many of our relationships are still patterned on the patriarchal model -- on property and ownership and scarcity," said the 48-year-old San Franciscan.

But that is changing rapidly.

In coming out of the closet, gays also began to question the old heterosexual modes.

"Gay men and lesbians have not been free for 5,000 years," said West. "There is no model for us. We are making up the rules as we go."

In the process, gay men and women began to extend the traditional concept of family, creating many types of pairings -- partnerships that satisfy different needs and levels of intimacy.

Today's gay families often include past lovers as well as present ones.

West has coined phrases and borrowed terms from other languages to name many of these new relationships:

* Co-vivante: The lover one lives with and spend one's life with. Unlike traditional heterosexual models, the relationship is non-monogamous.

* Companeros: Long-time friends or ex-lovers who still have a committed relationship, whether based on emotion, finance, child custody or shared interests.

* Apres-deux: Ex-lovers who have become so connected during their time together that they are more than friends. They have become family at its best -- a trusted emotional support system.

* Alumnae: The bittersweet tribal bond all women -- or men -- share who have been lovers with the same person. They have learned many of the same lessons from this person, have graduated from the same "school."

West not only speaks from observation but from experience. She practices the "passionate pluralism" she preaches.

"I didn't mean to live this one out," said West. "But it was time to start talking about what we're doing, about these very complex relationships we're having."

West currently has a co-vivante and a lover.

"I have a woman that I live with and am making a home with but I've also chosen to be with someone who helps me grow in other ways," said West.

West has been with her co-vivante for 1 1/12 years, her lover for more than a year.

West's co-vivante, Jeannine Toussaint-Caron, also is a firm believer in pluralism.

"The practice of pluralism calls for courage, creativity and love," said Toussaint-Caron.

They are not the only gays living out these new realities. Other gay men and lesbians also are living as companeros, apres-deux and alumnae.

Stand-up comic Robin Tyler and Patti Harrison are a good example of the shifting roles that gay couples adopt over the years.

Tyler and Harrison were a comedy team for 13 years and lovers for nine.

Twenty-five years after they met, they have monogamous relationships with other lovers but still work together and share houses on the same lot in Southern California.

"When you're done with the breakup and you're done with the sorrow, what do you have?" said Tyler.

"You have friendship -- the person still has the traits you loved about them.

Through her own experience, Tyler knows that lesbian relationships change over time to become even more important than they were when the couple was together.

"We need to create our own families since so many of us lose families by becoming gay."

Gays are not only redefining the family but extending the boundaries of friendship.

Relationships such as sleeping buddies satisfy the need for talking and touching, affection and sex without the restrictions of being a couple.

Seen among many younger lesbians and gay men, sleeping buddies have more intimacy over a longer period of time than tricking, a precursor.

"Often younger gays have several people they sleep with rather than a primary partner," said West. "It gives you someone to be vulnerable with."

But what is great in theory is often a disaster in practice. All of these new modes have frightening emotional pitfalls.

According to West, one of the major drawbacks is the "profound Puritan hangover" American gays have inherited from heterosexual matrimony. This social guilt keeps gays trapped in serial monogamy -- the merry-go-round that most heterosexuals are on today.

"We are not going to get pregnant, we are not doing anything wrong," said West. "But we are afraid because of these old heterosexual values that tell us sex is evil."

"We have been taught not to spread it around. But what we should be doing is sharing this shimmering romantic energy that lesbians and gay men have."

Another quagmire is the fear of losing the beloved to someone else.

"The triangle might be the most stable form in architecture but it's the least stable in relationships," said West with a laugh.

"Pluralism is not for sissies," added Toussaint-Caron. "It's helpful if you can handle feeling downright crazy now and then."

For others, constant change -- in a society already coming apart at the seams because of the complexity -- is more than they can bear.

"You have to be able to live with a lot of ambiguity," said Toussaint-Caron.

Another problem in our already stressed society is time. Juggling a number of different relationships takes an inordinate amount of time -- which many people simply don't have.

"It takes a lot of energy to want to be married and go out," said West. "Some people are more concerned with their careers or their kids or their spiritual growth."

Given the complications, pluralism isn't for everyone.

But for many gay men and lesbians, it has become an experiment with more and social structure that they began when they first escaped heterosexuality to become gay.

A signed copy of *A Lesbian Love Advisor* is available from Booklegger Press, 555 29th St., San Francisco CA 94131, postpaid at $11.95.

Dell Richards is a syndicated journalist whose book ***Lesbian Lists*** *is available nationwide.*▼

Ways to avoid the pitfalls of pluralism

by Dell Richards
OF MGW STAFF

Lesbian Love Advisor author Celeste West not only espouses non-monogamy but, over the years, has become an expert on it.

Through observation of others and experimentation with her own life, she has created guidelines for avoiding the pitfalls of pluralism.

But West cautions that guidelines or not, both partners must want a plural relationship.

"If one wants to be monogamous, it just won't work," said West.

By choosing pluralism, couples have to find other ways of bonding. Being able to communicate is another avenue. Being in touch with feelings -- and being able to talk about them -- helps create a bond of trust instead of the usual one of ownership.

"You have to commit wholeheartedly to honesty with compassion," said West. "A half truth is a whole lie."

If both partners agree to try this relatively new lifestyle, West thinks they should set up strict rules -- and follow them to the letter.

"The rules you have to set up for this type of arrangement take more discipline even than S/M," said West.

Some of the areas that need to be agreed upon -- prior to any action -- are:

* Overnights: Is either partner going to stay out all night with someone else? If so, do both partners have to agree on the night? How much in advance does the one have to let the other know?

* Special Events: Who spends what holidays with whom? Winter holidays such as Solstice, Hanukkah and Christmas should be considered as well as Thanksgiving, New Year's, Valentine's, birthdays and a myriad of others. These events can even include meeting each other at the airport after a trip.

* The House: Is the shared house a safe space, a place where no other lover ever sets foot? Or can it be used by either partner when the other is away? If so, what times can it be used -- all weekend or just until noon the next day? What happens if the other wants to come back unexpectedly?

* The Phone and Letters: Can the other lover leave messages on a shared answer machine? Can s/he send letters or gifts to the house?

* Information threshold: Even though West stresses the need for absolutely honesty about emotions, finding out how much detail to tell the co-vivante about the lover is a fine line to walk. How can you say enough to reassure the co-vivante without making it painful?

* Escape Clause: If one partner wants out of the experiment, what type of warning has to be given -- with how much time?

"We don't even threaten to break up anymore," said West. "We have decided to give two month's written notice -- in order to have time "to rearrange our lives."

While this kind of negotiation might seem too complicated for many, West stressed that discussing details -- in the most minute terms possible in advance -- can save a lot of heartache in the long run.

West also said that having a philosophical attitude goes a long way toward getting through the rough spots. Realizing that pain is inevitable and that nothing is ever final can help ease anguish during the bad times.

Taking responsibility vows with a commitment ritual annually also gives meaning to the relationship -- and adds to the fun. Promising to support emotionally as well as each other's careers and finances plus in sickness and health -- and the pleasures of the body are some of the vows people create.

West also added that fair righting rules, regular time set aside for airing grievances and conflict resolution procedures also make any relationship simpler in the long run.

In addition, a clear division of financial obligations and agreed upon household chores are bottom line issues for people who live together.▼

MGW Extra

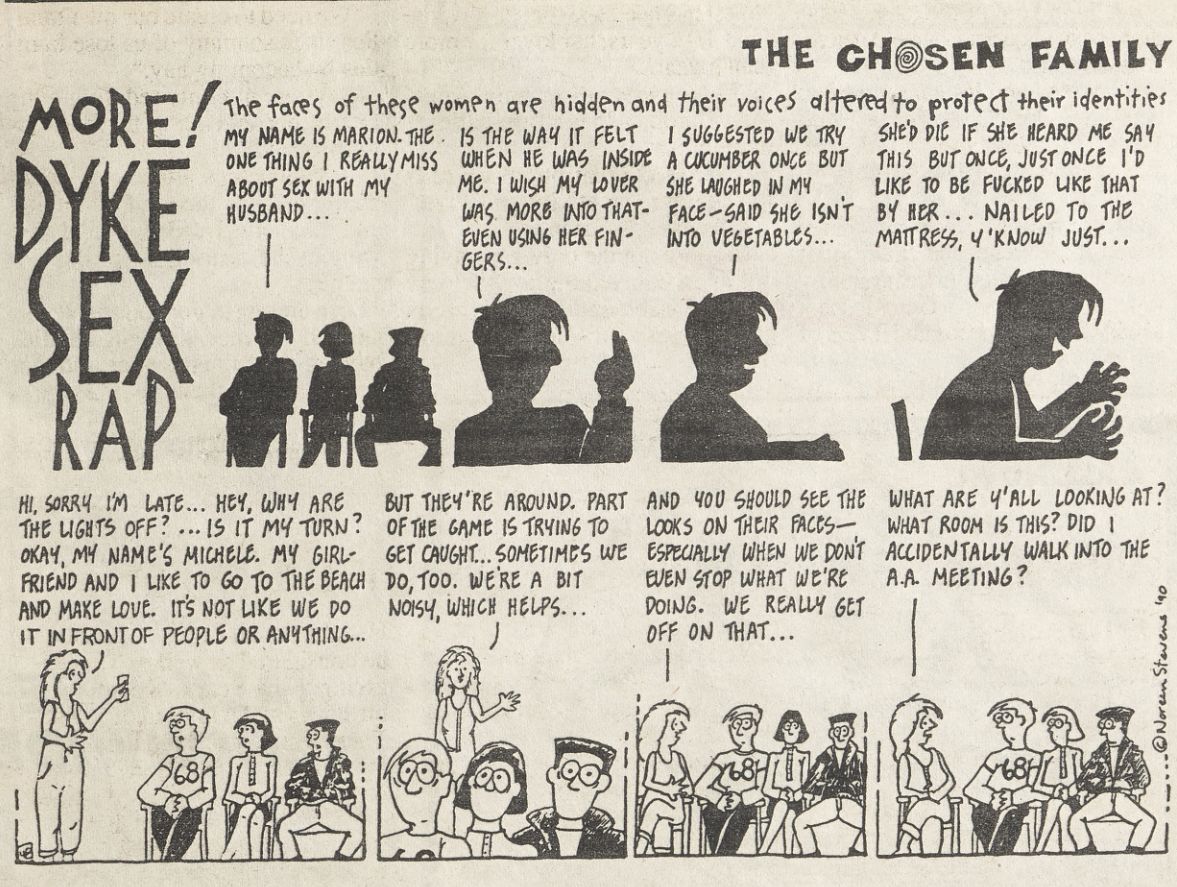
MOM...GUESS WHAT!

flash

by John Batchelor
OF MGW STAFF

(For phone numbers and details on events mentioned in this column, check the calendar and organization information in the back of the paper.)

Happy Valentine's Day! Whether you are part of a couple or would merely like to find someone to couple with, take time out to share quality time with friends. We can never nurture enough ● Belated January Birthday wishes to long time friend **Wayne Randall.** The year ahead will undoubtedly hold many bright surprises ● Happy February Birthday wishes to neighbor **Andy Peabody,** my sister **Susan, Edward Condon,** P-FLAG's **Rev. Merrill Follansbee, Gloria Sloan,** (the Rev. Jerry's mother), **Donna Robertson, Cheryl Strickland** (*Mom's* office manager), and my comrade in crime **Stephen Crow** ● Our publisher, **Linda Birner's** office was hit with Birthday decorations of confetti, crepe paper and thousands of marbles!!! Apparently, she was cleaning and rolling on marbles for days! The suspect seems to be reporter **Marghe Covino,** and she had an accomplice ... Editor **Jim Walker!!** ● The **Super Bowl** is now history with my home town team, the Buffalo Bills going down to a very narrow defeat. And alas, just when I was getting interested in the game (for the first time in my life). My Los Angeles activist friends inform me that a gay and lesbian Tampa group invested $7,000 in a float for a pre-game parade. Did any of you happen to see it? Did the float make it into the parade? We'll let you know ● **The Lambda Players** are presenting a full length mainstream play *Cloud Nine* February 9 to March 3. With the talent and dedication of this group, the show will definitely be a must-see. This British parody is presented on Saturdays and Sundays ● Yours truly is now on the faculty of **"Lambda U."** Put on your dancing shoes for a **FREE** workshop entitled **SWING 234** on February 18 at the Lambda Center. Try it out just for fun or to add some variety to your Country Western & Ballroom dancing. Partners not necessary. My next dance mini-course starts February 25 ● Beer and football tend to go together and many a Super Bowl party was enjoyed around town! ..... **Joseph's Town & Country** (JTC) has so much happening in February, it's hard to know where to begin. On February 8, the Do-Cats present Amanda Foxx. There will also be a dinner show on February 10 to benefit the UCD AIDS ward. And to top it off, there's a 2-for-1 dinner special on Valentine's Day ..... **The Buff** (Buffalo Club) is also celebrating Valentine's with a "Sweetheart Dance." There will be dancing with Rock-in Robin and a special raffle giveaway ..... **The Town House** adds lives in the months ahead. On February 10, don't miss a reception for internationally acclaimed artist **Karlo Djurovich.** Also peruse their new menu ..... there's a new bar in town called **Our Place.** My roving reporters inform me that it is a fun get together spot with dancing. Just look for the pink sign with green neon ..... One of the most down-to-earth bars is the Wreck Room. While leather is always popular, you can wear "whatever" and feel at home ..... The **Mercantile** continues to pack them in at happy hour. Stay tuned for many benefits in February ..... And **Faces** keeps us all dancing!! Country/western is my favorite venue but the late night "house music" is magnetic as well. On Valentine's Day, Faces gives away a trip for two to Phoenix, Arizona! ● River City Metropolitan Community Church's Grand Ballroom is the place for Country/western dancing on Fridays. If the bars are intimidating, get some practice in ahead of time. There's always a friendly crowd ● It never fails to amaze me the number of social groups around town. One with a lofty name is **5000 Club.** The group meets at private homes. Attendees play games that require everyone to sit at every table in the house. Sounds like a great icebreaker ● Over the December holidays, it was great to spend some time in Marina del Ray and Palm Springs. Even with the cold weather, it was a nice break with friends. Stay tuned for a novel idea in the desert called **Concepts in Time.** It is a luxurious time-share resort exclusively for gay people. I'll be "sharing" my observations in a future edition of *MGW* ● For all you theatre lovers, *Crucifer of Blood,* a new Sherlock Holmes mystery, plays at **Garbeau's Dinner Theatre** through March 2. Lavish sets & costumes, special effects, and superb acting illuminate the stage ● SAF continues its highly acclaimed **Healthy Living Series** with **Help Yourself: An Overview of Public Benefits Programs.** This forum takes place on February 11. And the ever-popular **Buddy Connection** safe-sex workshop returns on February 8. both events are held at 1900 K Street ● Until mid month -- stand proud ..... *John*▼


THE CHOSEN FAMILY
MORE! DYKE SEX RAP
The faces of these women are hidden and their voices altered to protect their identities
MY NAME IS MARION. THE ONE THING I REALLY MISS ABOUT SEX WITH MY HUSBAND...
IS THE WAY IT FELT WHEN HE WAS INSIDE ME. I WISH MY LOVER WAS MORE INTO THAT- EVEN USING HER FINGERS...
I SUGGESTED WE TRY A CUCUMBER ONCE BUT SHE LAUGHED IN MY FACE—SAID SHE ISN'T INTO VEGETABLES...
SHE'D DIE IF SHE HEARD ME SAY THIS BUT ONCE, JUST ONCE I'D LIKE TO BE FUCKED LIKE THAT BY HER... NAILED TO THE MATTRESS, Y'KNOW JUST...
HI, SORRY I'M LATE... HEY, WHY ARE THE LIGHTS OFF? ... IS IT MY TURN? OKAY, MY NAME'S MICHELE. MY GIRL-FRIEND AND I LIKE TO GO TO THE BEACH AND MAKE LOVE. IT'S NOT LIKE WE DO IT IN FRONT OF PEOPLE OR ANYTHING...
BUT THEY'RE AROUND. PART OF THE GAME IS TRYING TO GET CAUGHT... SOMETIMES WE DO, TOO. WE'RE A BIT NOISY, WHICH HELPS...
AND YOU SHOULD SEE THE LOOKS ON THEIR FACES— ESPECIALLY WHEN WE DON'T EVEN STOP WHAT WE'RE DOING. WE REALLY GET OFF ON THAT...
WHAT ARE Y'ALL LOOKING AT? WHAT ROOM IS THIS? DID I ACCIDENTALLY WALK INTO THE A.A. MEETING?
©Noreen Stevens '90

Bittersweet *by Charles Haver*

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GROW UP, TIMMY?
WHEN I GROW UP I'M GONNA BE A BAKER AND BAKE LOTS OF CAKES AND COOKIES AND STUFF!
WHAT ABOUT YOU, REGINALD?
WHEN I GROW UP I WANT TO BE A BALLET DANCER AND DO PIROUETTES ON THE STAGE—
LOOK AT THE TWO LIL' SISSIES!
AW! AIN'T THEY THWEET!!
WHOOPS! DON'T FALL DOWN!
WHAT DO YOU THINK THEY'LL BE WHEN THEY GROW UP?
POLITICIANS.
Chas
©1990

VANNAH

Continued from Extra page 14

Breakfast clubbing it

Cafe Vannah returns on Sunday, February 17 at 9am with the funds raised again going to the Sacramento AIDS Foundation. This Cafe will be at the Mercantile Saloon, so get up all your courage to venture into the Merc before noon!!

Who is the awfulest queen?

For those of you who have had dreams of glamour on the stage, or know someone who holds that dream, or knows someone that's absolutely terrified of that dream, the chance is now. Empress Vannah proudly presents "La Cage Awful," a fundraiser for the Sacramento AIDS Foundation. Much like a walk-a-thon or bowl-a-thon, this is a drag-a-thon. Any business, organization or group of friends (or enemies) can get sing-up sheets from the Empress. They then collect pledges from people to donate to have their chosen friend (or chosen victim) present an entertainment number at the show. At the end of the evening "the Awfulest Queen of the Capitol" will be crowned.

For more information and pledge sheets, call Empress Vannah at 421-3134. Certainly everyone knows someone who should participate!! There's plenty of time to get pledges, costumes and numbers together, "La Cage Awful" is scheduled for March 17th.▼

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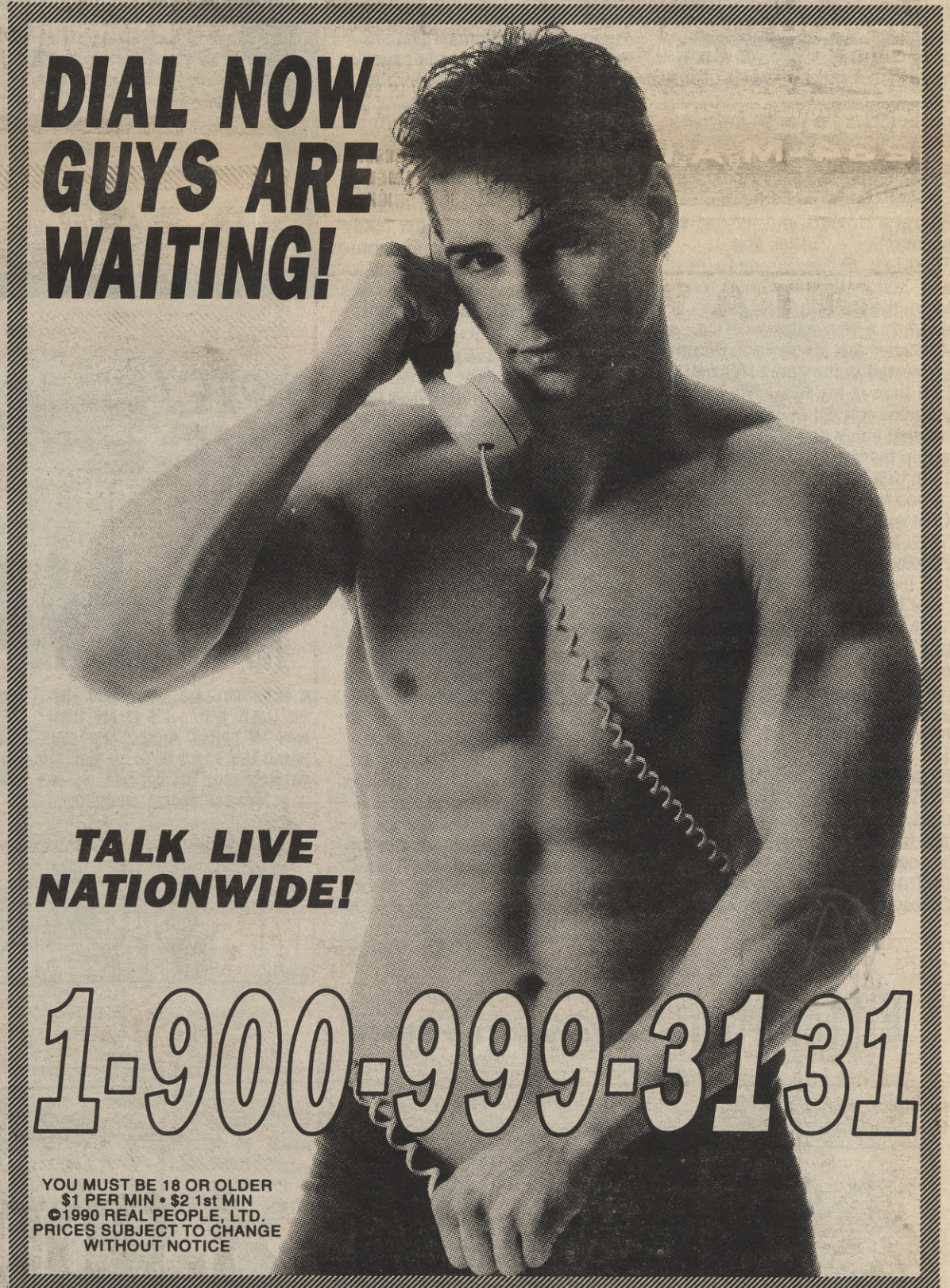

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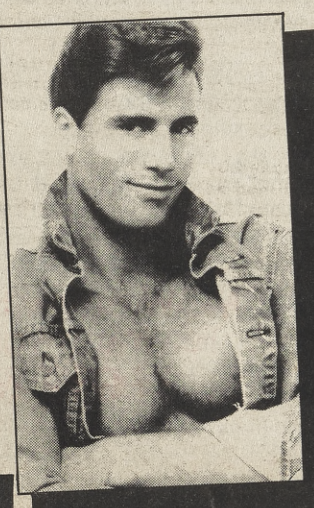

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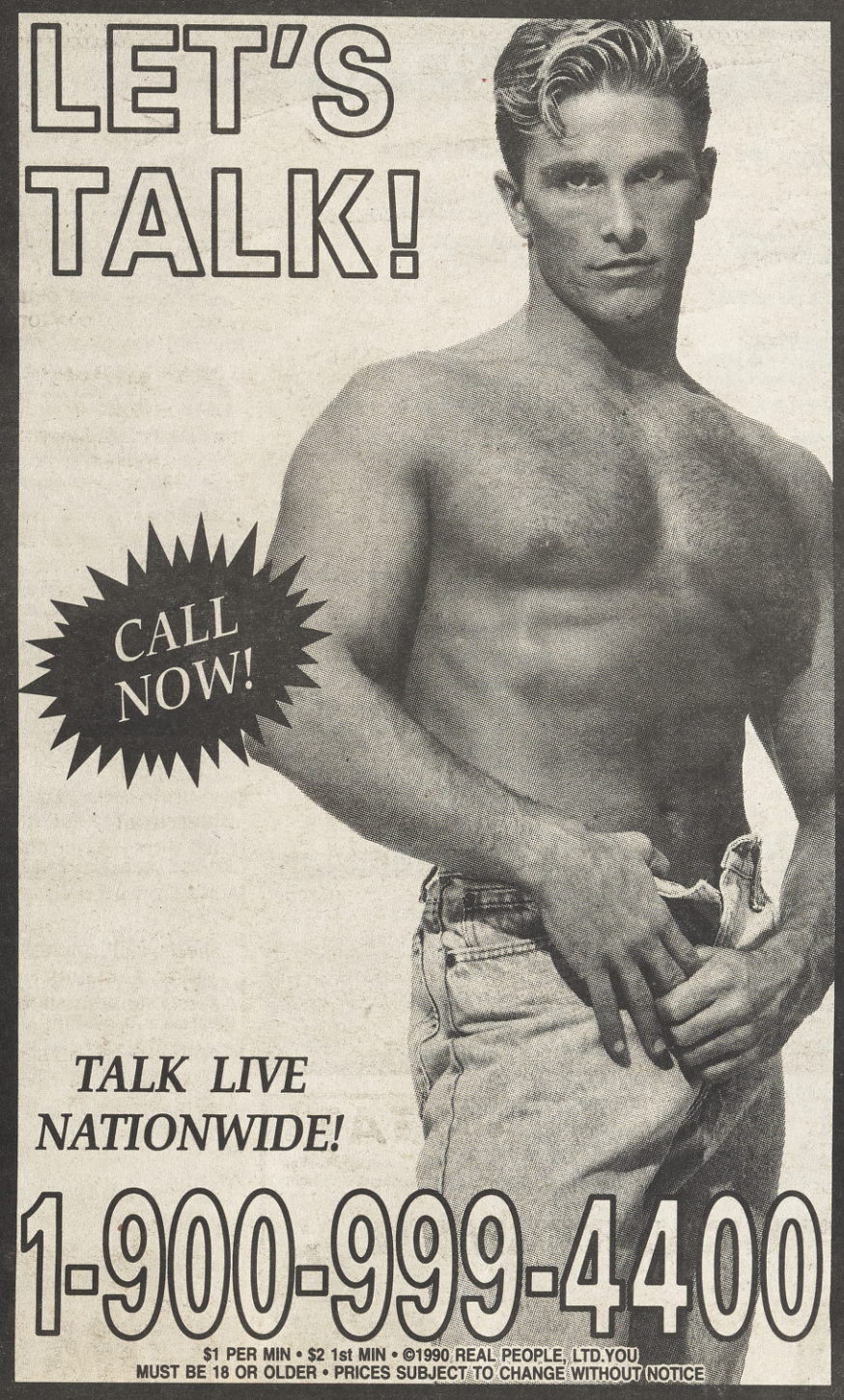

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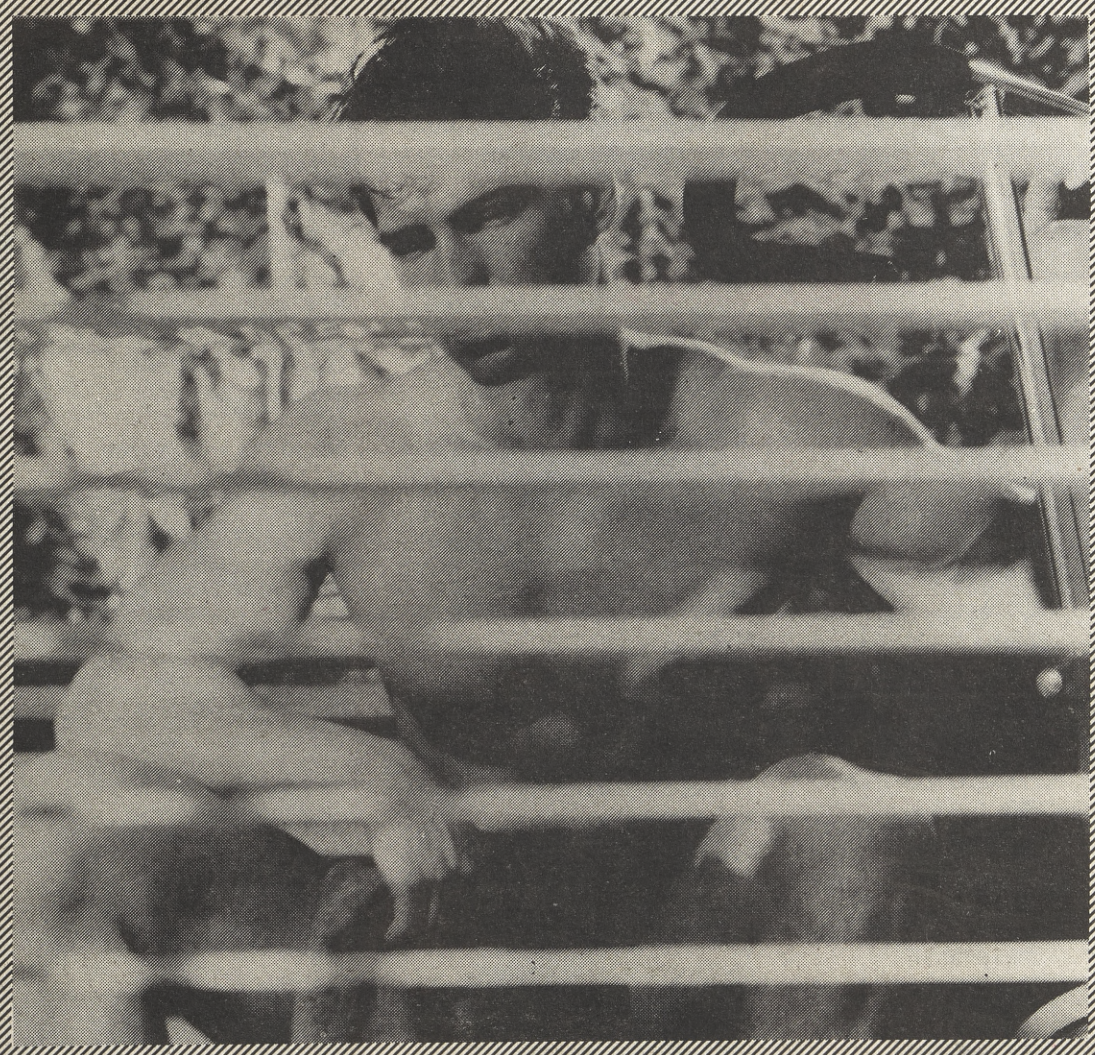

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Eric 343-8767

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Bambi 923-9327

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CSUS, 6000 J St.; Box 33, 95819

MEN'S COMING OUT GROUP
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Brian 441-7305; Jennifer 456-3469

GAYS & LESBIANS AT ARC
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Box 245125, 95824; MCC Social Hall Wed., 7pm

YOUTH GROUP
Lambda Center, 1931 L St. 442-0185 Fridays, 5:45pm

To list your non-profit organization, list name of group, address, meeting time, contact name & phone, and mail to MGW, 1725 L St., Sac. 95814

Nothing to sneeze at

by Hal Griffiths
OF MGW STAFF

The Empress was not amused when she hurt her back and was incapacitated for several days due to a simple sneeze. fortunately, her schedule was light and a few days flat on her back did her an empire of good. Of course, any time on her back she considers good. The court meeting had to be postponed for a week, but there have been worse disasters in life.

More closet balls/less closets

Vannah was back in her heels by the 12th of January for a road trip to Fresno to judge their closet ball. She was accompanied to the big raisin by Imperial Crown Prince KC. They had no problem finding the civic Auditorium in Fresno, it was the big building behind the far right picket line. Although it isn't unusual in Fresno, it was sad to see and hear the actions of uneducated people. Those type seem to be the most ignorant and refuse to budge from their homophobic stances. Their tactics showed great courage, also -- walking the picket line and shouting jeers to groups, but willing to confront up close parties of three or less. Such wonderful husband material!

The Sacramento Imperial party arrived at the same time as Empress XIX of San Jose, Toby and her group, so there was no harassment or danger presented to them directly. The ball had some very minor flaws -- the bar ran out of glasses and beer -- but it was a most enjoyable evening. Vannah enjoys closet balls and seeing her friends from other empires, it's always so tough to be a judge. Fresno was no different, with the contestants taking much time and effort for both of their looks and outfits.

There was one contestant for Closet Ball King (female to male) whose post-transformation look made her a twin to Grand Duke X, Patrick. It was an amazing resemblance.

The Queen candidates came out absolutely fabulous! A couple of the contestants were nothing short of amazing. Two lovers that entered looked wonderful and while one could walk and move with ease, she was extremely stiff and butch when standing, the other couldn't be considered a graceful walker but was a perfect poser.

Since closet balls require the hour for transformation, Fresno's time was filled with some great entertainment. San Jose's Imperial Crown Princess, Lucy Manhatten, did live singing and light patter that was excellent. She's a very professional entertainer. Sacramento's reigning Closet Ball Queen, Ms. Di A. Fram, was pretty entertaining herself. The audience appreciated her a lot, but not as much as the travelers on Highway 99. It takes guts to get ready in the Capitol and drive for three hours during the day, but court members are willing to sacrifice almost anything to help out their sisters.

That same evening Emperor XVI Paul was representing the crown in Ontario at the San Gabriel Valley Coronation. The Roaring 20's theme brought out lots of headdresses and Zeigfield frolicking. From all reports, Emperor Paul did another stellar job in making the Empire look great.

Commanding the Pacific Northwest

It was a great honor that the empress was required to give a Command Performance at the recent coronation in Bellingham, Washington. It proved to be yet another interesting evening in the Pacific Northwest. Their court had seen many changes, as Empress Celita Slide was the third empress this reign. Their Emperor, Boots, fell in her hot tub a few days before and broke her knee. she ended up having surgery the evening of the ball. The sound system was as little weak and the second performer blew out the speakers. After a slight delay, the sound man informed Vannah that she was up, he slapped her tape in a boom box and held the emcee's microphone in front of the speakers. Always one to remember "the show must go on," your Empress gallantly performed with what seemed like music from a 1963 transistor radio trying desperately to bring in a weak AM signal. Even though they were unsure of the number she did, she won the hearts and respect of the audience. Another sound system (three seems to be their lucky number) and the ball was on its way, wit no more foul-ups. It was a fun and successful trip for the Empress.

The Duke and Duchess and Company

CGNIE was also well represented at the Grand Ducal Ball in Reno. Grand Duke Gene and Grand Duchess Racine headed a large delegation at the celebration. A weekend of fun and frivolity awaited the court members. The Grand Duchess put so much into her performance at the out of town show that she ended up with a broken dress strap and snapped heel. Lord Baron Tom and Baronial members of the court received an award for their entrance production number. Who knows what Large Marge received, but it must have been good. She didn't return to the Capitol for several days.

On the road again

Vannah returned to Sacramento for a day before driving off to Fresno again, She was the official hostess at the 35th birthday celebration of their Emperor JB. Since it was a fundraiser, her greeting at the door was, "Hi, I'm your hostess. Where's your five bucks?" No one got in for free that night.

Looking for a good time?

Sacramento has some fun and fundraiser coming up. Miss Gay Sacramento, Jimi, is teaming up with Brenda and Jordan on Saturday, February 2 at 8pm for "Trio" to benefit CARES. The girls have been practicing their hippads off and you can expect a great show at Joseph's.

Emperor XVI Paul and Empress XVI Stacey are hosting a dinner party and show at Joseph's on Sunday the 10th. Dinner starts at 7 and the proceeds will go to the East 8 ward at UCD Med Center.

Grand Duke Gene and Grand Duchess Racine are having a Valentine's Day Party and show at Faces on (guess) the 14th. Red and white and love should fill the evening, so with a date or not be prepared to fall in love again.

Also out at Joseph's will be the "Leather and Feather Ball" sponsored by Mr. Cheeks and Chaps, Bill. Dinner is at 7 and the show, which I promise you will be much more than just another drag show, will begin at 8. So mark the 15th on your date book.

For more Vannah see inside Extra

WAR: Protesters vs. supporters

Photo/Suzie Bulger

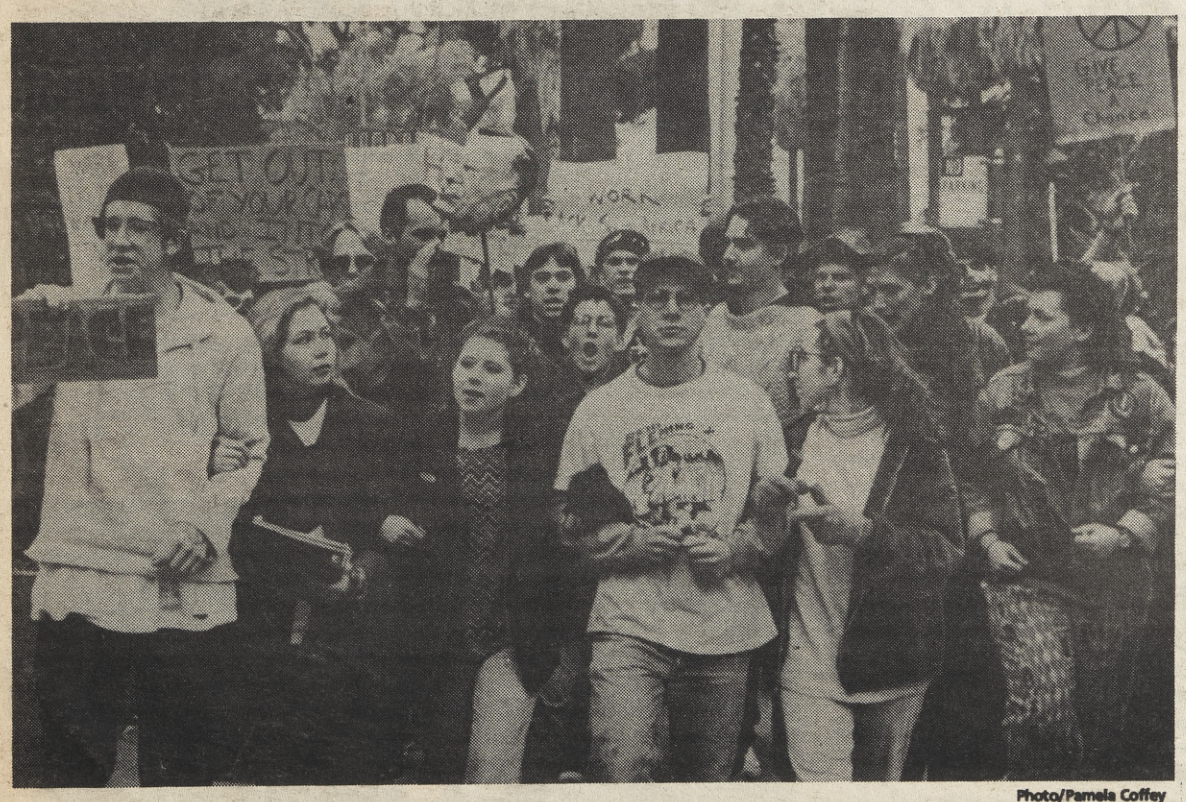
January 19th, protesters asked for peace in the Middle East at an anti-war rally in San Francisco.

Photo/Kate Tavares

Troop supporters meet peace group.

Photo/Suzie Bulger

January 19, an estimated 60,000-100,000 anti-war protesters march to City Hall in San Francisco.



Photo/Pamela Coffey

With only hours to go before the UN midnight deadline with Iraq, anti-war demonstrators took to the streets following an overnight peace vigil at the State's Capitol. An estimated 700 protesters marched to the military recruitment offices at the Federal Building on I Street.

Military continues to remove gays despite war

by Jim Walker
MANAGING EDITOR

Despite published reports that the Department of Defense will allow gays and lesbians to remain in the service until the end of the war, a lesbian Army reservist has been ousted.

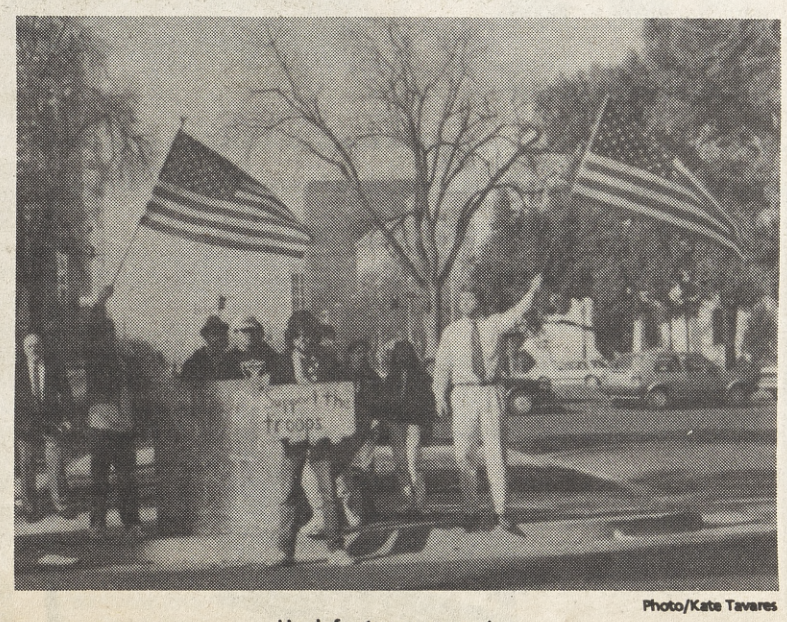
In the first of two stories published in the San Francisco Chronicle, Department of Defense spokesman Kenneth Scatterfield originally said "the discharge of known gay personel may now be deferred until they are no longer needed for the Gulf operation." But since then, Scatterfield told the gay newspaper, the San Francisco Sentinel, that the regulations are still in place and that anyone revealing their sexual orientation would be discharged.

Gay activists point-out the rhetoric of service as a whole in inconsistent and they point to cases like that of Donna Jackson.

The 25-year-old Army reservist declared she was a lesbian as her unit was training for deployment to the gulf.

The San Diego woman did, however, receive an honorable discharge 11 days after challenging the military's ban on homosexuals. Her discharge came after sending a letter to her commanders at Fort Ord in which she said she wished to fight for her country "as an open lesbian with dignity."

Shortly after her declaration, Jackson was reassigned to a support unit stationed permanently at Fort Ord, where her San Diego based 129th Evacuation Hospital unit was awaiting deployment.▼



Photo/Kate Tavares

Honk for troop support.

NOW's plan for PEACE

The following resolution has been unanimously adopted by the National Organization for Women.

The National Organization for Women deplores the action taken by Congress to authorize George Bush's use of military force in the Persian Gulf.

We note that the vote today (January 14), in both the Senate and the House indicates a nation sharply divided. This vote was taken with over half the population, women, effectively unrepresented by a 95 percent male Congress. The women of the United States had said, in poll after poll, that they do not approve of the use of violence to settle disputes. We express our grave concern for our sisters and brothers, daughters and sons, mothers and fathers in the military who are risking their lives in the Middle East. We express our solidarity with the civilian populations of the world who will be the victims of this conflict through death, injury, poverty and the destruction of the environment.

If women cannot be heard in Congress, we will be heard in the streets.

Today, we announce our Five-Point Agenda For Peace:

1. We urge individual women and men all across this country to organize street demonstrations in their communities to speak out for peace.
2. We urge women to join us in forming women's delegations at the national marches called for January 19th and 26th in Washington D.C. and at demonstrations throughout the nation.
3. We call for an international Summit for Peace, inviting the leaders of all women's organizations in the United States and around the globe to join us in organizing for peace worldwide.
4. We urge concerned citizens to participate in the hearings being held by the Commission for Responsive Democracy on a new political party. Testimony should expose the role of the Bush Administration and the Congress in this move toward war, and explore the need for a new party dedicated to peace, equality and justice.
5. We ask all concerned citizens of the world to wear yellow and whit ribbons to express resistance to this war movement. We wear yellow until our troops are returned home safely and we wear white until these disputes are resolved peacefully.

Today Congress and George Bush have effectively declared war on behalf of the people of the United States.

Today the National Organization for Women joins our sisters and brothers around the world to demand peace. We will settle for nothing less.

The resolutions adopted is in response to the votes taken today by the U.S. Congress. Previously, the NOW National Board has called for the return of all U.S. troops from the Middle East and has condemned the Bush Administration's capitulation to the gender apartheid practiced by our allies in the Middle East.

The National Organization for Women is the largest feminist organization in the United States, with more than 230,000 members.▼

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entertainment

Ruth Rosenberg Dance Ensemble debut offers many interpretations

by John Mello
OF MGW STAFF

The fascinating thing about Ruth Rosenberg's choreography and programming is that she can be so cerebral about an art that is essentially visual, and she does this by presenting it innocently as pure dance without all the heavy posturing that used to be seen in Modern dance. The term itself now refers to that earlier pioneering era roughly synonymous with the career of Martha Graham and though we have passed even Post-Modern, Rosenberg's ensemble will be considered a Modern company because, so far, her dancers don't wear toe shoes. They may as well wear them, since her choreography is approximately 85 percent ballet and her aesthetics might be as much as 100 when you consider the once-tabu ballet bows they take. Modern dance has been incorporating more and more ballet over the past 20 years to the point where this jaundiced eye is craving (like pure flamenco in Sevilla) "that old-time religion" with zero ballet steps. What's modern about Rosenberg is her restraint, her primary concern for dance values, her feminism and her accessibility. She keeps the stage picture clear, her dancers moving, her women in charge, and she does it all very calmly and confidently. With more dancers and longer programs imagine the creative work she can do!

The opening piece, *Ostinato,* set to Vivaldi (classically correct curtain-raiser) had some humorous sack dresses that tried but failed to disfigure the beautifully crafted dance phrases for three women. Without any men on the entire program, Rosenberg here sets the pace for her leisurely evening of women dancing together. Balanchine once said something to the effect that if you put a group of men onstage you have nobody, but when you put on a group of women you have the whole world. This must be because the male sex-role stereotype is more uniform, anonymous and therefore less human, causing each man to disappear into the group. Modern dance choreographers have been the ones to deal with this problem; the ballet world in general, perhaps out of homophobia, still expects male dancers to be clones, or boys. At least men now do things that were once considered exclusively for women, like high leg extensions. People must find opening one's legs wide to be an innately feminine movement. Rosenberg uses many of them here, in pirouettes a la seconde and sometimes stopping the rhythmic flow of the choreography for her women to executive developpes together. Another thing she emphasizes are feet, which to me shows the influence of Balanchine. She has her dancers use their feet in a teasing, testing, probing way that gives them their own kind of intelligence.

The second offering was *H (H cubed)* to themes from various soap operas, by Sunny Smith. The cast was Harold, a cardboard shipping box representing a "square" husband, and two women who represented dual aspects of his frustrated wife. The woman in sexy black stockings and heels narrated in non sequiturs, the cant of pop psychology and mathematic equations, while the woman in a modified bridal outfit danced doggerel ballet phrases and pantomimed. Sex-role stereotypes were the issue here. Instead of being experimental, avant-garde or conceptual, it just wound up being another one of her terminally cute throwaways, a piece d'occasion to provide balance and filler for the program. We would have much preferred one of Smith's rare serious abstract works, or something experimental from Rosenberg. Maybe next time.

Photo/Penny Kline
Ruth Rosenberg and Jill Stripling in "Ostinato"

There was a short ballet included to an excerpt from the Delibes opera "Lakme" by Amelie Hunter that was very lovely. It had the mysterious Sharon Costello, whose muted dancing has always made me feel that there is some secret here, that there are some things that can't or shouldn't be said out loud, like the loneliness of being. Rosenberg has the opportunity to create some fantastic pas de deux with this dancer.

In "Memories Never Fade" by Rosenberg to a pastiche of Schumann and Dvorak, we got sketches of a work that surely must still be growing. It had a program note that suggested to me the Jewish Holocaust, especially timely since while w were comfortable in our theater seats missiles have been falling on Israel. she daringly included a folk scene of girls (daring because most people think "recital" when they see children) that was consistent with this evening of all female dancers. The theme was loss, grief and despair, though we need to see more development of the music (like opening some of the cuts in the Schumann) before we can really believe what we are seeing. There are interesting stories about the inspiration for the Dvorak string quartet written while he was in America -- some say Negro spirituals others say the American Indians he saw suffer -- whatever it is, Rosenberg has responded to it very deeply.

The last work, "Soda Foundation Rag," by the late San Francisco choreographer Ed Mock in whose company Rosenberg danced, we were treated to a kind of deranged waltz of the fiances from "Swan Lake" in blowzy tulle ballgowns. To an Emmylou Harris country-western waltz tune, six women lounge, sashay, preen, vamp, whoop it up, upstage one another, ball up their skirts, drift off wistfully, and strike decorative 19th century ballet poses in another parody of sex-role stereotypes. The cast included Jill Stripling, who had appeared in three other works and who impresses one with her range, looking exactly like Zorina. The timing of all the dancers was delightful, creating just the right effect without descending to slapstick. They received a huge ovation from the audience and we halfway wished they would encore the piece! Again, maybe next time.▼

Learn to act at the Lambda Center

by Neil Minietta
GUEST WRITER

Lambda U, presented by the Lambda Community Center, recently conducted their first workshop on acting, the first in a series of classes and seminars on various topics for the gay community.

Acting 101 was actually three workshops instructed by John Mitchell of the Lambda Players.

These workshops were designed for people with limited or no acting experience. The ideas behind Acting 101 was to help overcome shyness, meet new people and have a good time.

Mitchell was a volunteer instructor for the workshop series which was free as all.

Neil Treganza of the Lambda Community Center describes Lambda U as an alternative to the bar scene for meeting new people. In the coming months, other courses will be offered with a diverse range of interests.

For more information and to sign-up for courses, contact the Lambda Community Center at 442-0185.▼

John Mitchell

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A new Woody Allen confection

by Matthew Kennedy
OF MGW STAFF

If you notice a similarity to *Alice in Wonderland* and Mia Farrow in the title role of Woody Allen's new movie, it's not accidental. Fantasy is the order of the day here, as it was in Allen's charming *The Purple Rose of Cairo* and his short film *Oedipus Wrecks* from the trilogy *New York Stories*.

Farrow, in her 11th feature film with Allen, plays a pampered and underachieving New York housewife to yuppie-scum lawyer William Hurt. Her pained back takes her to acupuncturist Dr. Yang (a dryly amusing Keye Luke) who prescribes a number of mysterious herbs and potions. The "medicine" transforms Alice into a love-hungry vixen, or renders any man near her defenseless to her charms. Another potion is so potent that it leaves any taker temporarily invisible!

The comic possibilities are endless and have been mined before in opera *(The Elixir of Love)*, theater *(A Midsummer's Night Dream)*, and elsewhere. It's all irresistible fun and thoroughly benign.

Photo/Brian Hamill

Mia Farrow seen in Woody Allen's "Alice."

As in so many Allen movies, the amusing and the poignant walk hand in hand. Comic situations are set up only to end on a wistful note. The ending is a disappointment: instead of the irony in 1989's *Crimes and Misdemeanors*, Allen gives us predictable rehash of a woman filled by simple pleasures in helping others. I kept waiting for some sting, some twist to a hackneyed message. None arrived; Allen went soft this time.

Allen is aided by a predictably fine ensemble. When this director/screenwriter calls, actors clear their schedules. Appearing in a Woody Allen movie means prestige on any resume. Who else could get Julie Kavner, Judy Davis, Cybill Shepherd, Alec Baldwin, Blythe Danner, Gwen Verdon and Bernadette Peters to appear in cameo roles in a single movie?

The actors all look to be having a lot of fun. Joe Mantegna is restrained and touching as Alice's extra-marital romantic interest. Farrow is refining a subtle and engaging comic touch while her vocal mannerisms are eerily similar to Allen's. The familiar collaborators (producers, costume designer, production designer, casting agent and editor) give *Alice* a fine sheen that can be expected from any Allen production.

Joe Mantegna speaks glowingly of the comfort of a Woody Allen set: "Working with Woody Allen is almost like making a home movie because he surrounds himself with people he knows and who he has worked with for a long time, and there's not a lot of fuss and bother or the dramatics that sometimes go on movie sets. It's very personal." It shows in *Alice*, a pleasing but not major addition to Allen's repertoire.▼

Chernobyl unforgotten

by Drew Herzig
OF MGW STAFF

The current photographic exhibition at the Lite Rail Art Gallery -- "Chernobyl - Memories Not To be Forgotten" -- represents a big risk to gallery-owner Michael Xepoleas. To cover the costs of this major display, he must charge an admission fee -- not to the entire gallery, only to the Chernobyl exhibit. Don't let the $4 keep you away; this is an incredibly powerful essay in photojournalism.

Igor Kostin is not a name familiar to Western ears, but his work on Chernobyl is worthy to stand beside works by Henri Cartier-Bresson or Margaret Bourke-White. One hundred of his photographs record the devastation following the nuclear accident in the Ukraine.

We see busloads of babushka-wearing peasants waiting to be evacuated, and busloads of masked and suited technicians being brought in to somehow deal with the situation. Buildings are bulldozed and the radioactive rubble buried. Workers with radiation burns are swathed in bandages or display flesh colored purple, yellow, gray. The evacuated area has become a giant experiment in radiation. Some of the elderly villagers return to their homes -- they would rather die than leave. At their age, what have they to lose? One man paints a pathetic message on his home: "Comrades -- Do not bulldoze this house -- We are living here!" Chilling photos record the births of mutated, deformed calves, pigs, horses. Officials held responsible for the plant disaster are tried and sentenced to hard labor.

Nothing is staged or sensationalized. These photos simply document one of the greatest disasters in modern history. As the exhibition's title indicates, they are unforgettable. And yet, there is a real danger that we may forget. Even worse, and yet understandable, is that we may wish to forget.

We are saturated with suffering. How much more can we bear? Why should we force ourselves to confront this grim memento mori?

Writing this review during the first days of the war in the Middle East, on the brink of a possible nuclear war, I can only think, "Now, more than ever." Chernobyl must be remembered if we are ever to create a nuclear-free world. Make the time to see this exhibition.

Kostin's photos will be on display until February 22. The Lite Rail Gallery is open Monday through Saturday, 11am-5pm, 918 12 St., 441-1013.▼

Artist-in-residence at Lite Rail Gallery

by Drew Herzig
OF MGW STAFF

If the Lite Rail Gallery is not already part of your regular itinerary, it's worth a special trip to see the works of artist-in-residence Mickael Scott Jones. A few pieces are on display in the main exhibit space, but the bulk of his oeuvre is in the loft. Ask to see it. An abundance of artistry awaits you.

Mickael Scott Jones's work moves freely between photo-realism and surrealism. His art combines the immediacy of photography with the intimacy of the finest pencil drawings. Jones's artistry extends to the matting and framing of his works. The matting often departs from the traditional rectangle. Most of the drawings are mounted off-center, creating spatial relationships that are both intriguing and oddly satisfying.

The subjects range from birds and beasts (including some steamy satyrs and centaurs) to superstars. A rendition of Lucille Ball somehow invests her with an almost tragic intensity. There are also nude studies with the virile gravity of Michelangelo's "Adam," and pop icons to match those of Andy Warhol. Of special appeal are the portraits of American Indians. The faces of young maidens and reverend chiefs cross the barriers of time and culture with a haunting reality.

Mickael Scott Jones himself is refreshingly modest and unaffected. A native of Oregon, he has recently brought his creative abilities to Sacramento.▼

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Photo/Brian Hamill

Mia Farrow in "Alice"

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happenings

HAPPENINGS

Continued from page 4

CSUS announces auditions for two plays

The CSUS Theatre Arts Department will hold open auditions Wednesday, February 6 and Thursday, February 7, 7-11pm for *The Singular Life of Albert Knobs* by S. Bermussa and directed by Janelle Reinelt and Soldierboy, a bilingual play by Judith and Servo Perez and directed by Manuel Pickett. Callbacks will be held on Friday, February 8, 7-11pm. The auditions will take place at the CSUS Speech/Drama Building, Room 249, 6000 J Street. It is not necessary for those auditioning for *Soldierboy* to be bilingual. The play does require a multicultural cast. CSUS students are given priority in casting. For information: 278-6368.▼

A wine and cheese party for sports

SAGA IV is hosting its First Annual Wine and Cheese Party. It will be held at the Townhouse, Monday, February 25, from 6:30-10:30pm. Music and a no host bar will be provided. Tickets are $10.

Contact Tom Lane at 916-635-1535 or any of the SAGA IV Board members.▼

Solo artist to present Will It Pop?

Climate Theatre and Ruven Hannah announced the presentation of Hannah's solo performance, *Will It Pop? - A Trilogy for Late-Night Neurotics*. Comprised of three individual pieces, *After All, My Heart Beats* and *Dr. Purple-Lova, Will It Pop?* will run February 7-23, Thursdays-Saturdays at 10:30pm.

Tickets are $9 Thursday and Fridays, $11 Saturdays. A portion of the proceeds from the Saturdays. A portion of the proceeds from the Saturday evening performances will benefit Shanti, Project Open Hand and the AIDS Emergency Fund. Ticket info: 415-626-9196.▼

Dealing with differences in a positive way

January SACWN guest JoAnn Loulan, MFCC and Marylynne Slaven, M.A. are planning a workshop for lesbian couples.

The workshop is designed to help you discover how your differences can strengthen the relationship rather than weaken it and how to experience a new non-threatening way to look at each other's behavior styles.

The March 16 program is limited to ten couples, $120 per couple. For more information or reservations, please call (415) 851-7695.▼

Junk needed for making jewels

The Valley Knights Motorcycle Club is having a yard sale and bake sale on March 9-10 (rain dates, March 16-17), and they need the junk from your yard, garage, attic and spare bedroom. Members are willing to pick up. Call Mike at 455-6540.

Remember, one person's junk is another person's jewel, and if your junk can be sold to someone as a jewel, it could help finance some of VKMC's activities over the next few months.

Donations of baked goods for the sale are also needed.

The sale will be at 4100 21st St., near Sacramento City College.▼

Lamba Players present full length mainstream play

The Lambda Players are presenting *Cloud Nine*, a mainstream British parody which takes a scornful eye to racism, sexism, and homophobia. These issues are presented through the intertwining confusion of the sexual escapades of a Victorian-African British family. Critically acclaimed in London and Broadway.

Cloud Nine opens February 9 and will run through March 3. Performances are Saturdays and Sundays; doors open at 7:45pm, curtain at 8:15. Tickets will be $6 advance/$8 at the door. Reservations 442-0185.▼

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Transpersonal counseling: A client's critique

by Kate M. Lang, M.S.
OF MGW STAFF

(letter written October 26, 1987)

Dear Kate,

To start out with, I would like to say that the two sessions I had with you were outstanding and have made a tremendous impact on my life. I have had individual psychotherapy previously, for about two years, and even though I learned a great deal about myself during that time, looking back at it now and comparing it with your style of psychotherapy, I feel like I could have accomplished so much more if I had spent the same amount of hours in therapy with you. At any rate, I respect you a great deal for your integrity as a human being as well as for your well above average professional competence as a psychotherapist.

Back to your letter and the format and topics you suggested, I would like to start out , briefly reviewing the work you did. As mentioned before, I saw you twice, the first time with my friend XXXX, and the second time alone. The reason I came to see you was to get an idea about what was happening with our relationship and to get a third person to act as a type of interpreter. XXXX and I had been living together for two years and I wanted to formalize our relationship and get married. He was very ambivalent about it and gave me conflicting messages as to what he wanted. For example, he had given me a diamond ring and we had set up a date to get married. We had our photographs taken for wedding announcements and made various other plans.

Two weeks before the day we were supposed to get married, he changed his mind again. Needless to say, I was very frustrated about it, especially because I really love him and felt very committed to him at the time.

During our first session, without having any kind of knowledge of what the situation/problem was, you were able, undoubtedly through the use of your psychic skills, to offer a metaphor that uncannily described our situation perfectly. You further were able to not only explore and identify the nature of our problem but also to present your findings in a way that made it clear and easy to comprehend how the other person was feeling and acting and why we felt and acted that particular way. It was a very powerful session, and for the first time, I could really understand XXXX. I felt very close to him that day and for the first time, everything made sense, why he acted in certain ways and why he was unable to make a commitment to me at the time.

About a week after this session we replayed the tape and discussed certain topics, ie., the financial considerations you had mentioned, we also talked about how XXXX was still reacting from previous relationships and how it detrimentally affected our relationship. I asked him to join me for another session with you but he declined with the reason that he felt there was nothing to resolve for him and that I would benefit best by going alone. He had also decided that he was not going to get married anymore.

When I went to see you the second time, I felt very upset. I was depressed, sad, angry and felt down right lousy. After I had told you what had transpired you managed to successfully do some very difficult work with me. You made me look at and sort out the facts about what was going on. Then you helped me to not only get an understanding (intellectual as well as emotional!) by clarifying why it was that I reacted that way because of my early family experiences, but also to get to the point of accepting things the way they were, after lots of emotional discharging. And you didn't just leave it there, like many therapists would. You went on and helped me design and theoretically implement effective coping strategies. It was truly amazing how you accomplished all this in just one hour. When I left your office that late afternoon I felt extremely relieved and free and, additionally, I was very clear about what I was going to do. And this feeling/skill/insight/learning or whatever we want to call it has stayed with me to this day. This briefly describes the work you did with me.

You asked my to criticize your work honestly. To this I can only reply that your work is very effective and yet brief. I thought about this for awhile and I truly cannot come up with any negative criticism of your work other than your dream analysis.

And the only criticism I have with regard to that has to do with my personal issues regarding dream work. I personally don't give much credence to dreams. I don't even remember my dreams most of the time. It is not your skills as a dream analyst, which by the way are some of the better ones I have observed, that I object to but rather dream analysis in itself.

One of the points I would also like to address is how the transpersonal/psychic approach to counseling may be an adjunct to contemporary psychological counseling. To start out with, I have to admit that I am usually quite critical of metaphysical phenomenon and don't pay much attention to them. The reason why I came to see you was a personal recommendation from a psychologist friend of mine whom I respect greatly. He had utilized your services and found your work to be of great quality.

The first argument for adding a professional transpersonal/psychic component to contemporary psychotherapy is purely economic. You have demonstrated to me that through the use of psychic skills, a psychotherapist can clearly identify a client's problem(s) in an extremely short period of time. While most good psychotherapists take at least 3 to 5 hours to do a thorough assessment of a client's case, (and) it takes the normal talented therapist 5 to 10 hours to get a clear understanding of what the client's problems are and how they can best be helped, with the use of your psychic skills, you were able to see right away what the problem was and what could be done about it- in less than 1 (!) hour. With the average fee for one hour of psychotherapy ranging from (1987) $50.00 - $75.00 an hour, this could mean a cost savings of as much as $675.00 initially for assessment and this figure does not even include the cost savings for continued psychotherapy. It is obvious that these figures speak for themselves.

A second, and also very important proponent for adding the transpersonal /psychic component to psychotherapy is that it quickly establishes rapport between the therapist and the client. The client feels immediately understood and trusts the therapist. For example, when you offered your psychic impression of the nature of our problem without having had any prior knowledge of our situation, we were not only very impressed by this psychic ability, but I also felt immediately very close to you, I knew I could trust you and I knew you were competent. This also happens to be an example of how transference issues are therefore also easily resolved.

Thirdly, adding a psychic/transpersonal component to psychotherapy seems to establish an added dimension of communication between therapist and client. It may be that there is communication simultaneously happening on a conscious as well as unconscious level. Pertinent information to the client's problem may be easily accessed and remembered and processed effectively without extraneous conscious interference in ;the therapy session.

This third point is my own theory based on my experience in therapy with you. For example, when you out of nowhere asked me a question pertaining to my parents (I have to admit that it could have been the pointedness of your question) the answer, laden with insight, came to me immediately. This happened on a couple of other occasions as well. At any rate, I am usually very critical and would not respond as spontaneously as I did when you used your psychic perceptions, and it seems to me that it was (those) that enabled me to respond so directly without conscious censorship. I am not sure if I am communicating these experiences clearly, but they are difficult to describe.

In closing, I would like to make some general remarks about your psychotherapeutic style which I have found most effective of all that I have seen (and I have to say that I have worked with a great number of other therapists in hospital and clinic settings and have observed many psychotherapists at work during my intern-ship and training period)!

Your psychotherapeutic style cannot easily be categorized. If a label had to be applied, I would have to call it "Uniquely and effectively eclectic". By rewinding and listening to the tapes, I have observed you apply various psychotherapeutic techniques, including cognitive-behavioral, psychoanalytic, gestalt, Ericksonian, indirect hypnotic, NLP and brief, active psychotherapeutic. What I found very impressing was how you apply these various techniques in a way that is so smoothly flowing, goal-oriented and effective.

Another aspect of your style pertains to how you confront people in therapy in a way that gets them to listen and understand (even some hard to take and difficult to accept facts about themselves and others) without getting defensive. This ability of confronting clients while still maintaining rapport is rarely found in therapists and, in my opinion, is a very important ingredient for effective psychotherapy.

I hope that my comments will be of some help to you and the writing of your book. Best of luck to you in all your endeavors and again thank you for your wonderful work with me. I feel very confident about recommending your services to people and will undoubtedly seek your counsel again in the future.

With great respect and gratitude

Cornelia N.
(with permission)

Kate M. Lang, M.S., B.A. Parapsychology, M.S. Transpersonal Counseling Psychology, Credentialed in Parapsychology since 1971. Sacramento County Licensed Counseling Parapsychologist since 1975. Consultation in person or by phone. (916) 487 8485.t

youth

Being a teenage gay/lesbian in the '90s

by Ken Thompson
OF MGW STAFF

"I remember this so vividly. It was the first day of school and I walked into the locker room. It was filled with about 60 guys all in various stages of undress. I felt as if my whole world had just stopped; my heart sort of fell into my stomach. I just could not move. I was so turned on and then I was so turned off because of my excitement. I don't even know how I managed to get dressed, but every day for the next four years, P.E. was definitely my favorite period; and I hated myself for it."

Paul P.'s experience captures the first sexual awakening of male adolescence and the dissonance and self-censoring that occurs when that attraction is for members of the same sex.

The years of 12 to 18 are among the most tenuous years and are even more so for those questioning their sexual preferences. It is during these years that sexuality surfaces as a major developmental issue. Teenagers struggle to resolve their own identity and endeavor to formulate a sense of who she/he is in the world.

"All I can remember is that I knew I was going to grow up and become some kind of schizo. I was Miss Perfect; Perfect grades, perfect friends, perfect dates. I had perfect parties and wore perfect clothes. It was all a game. I would catch myself looking at Kathy, my best friend, and I was terrified by what I might feel. I was expected to date boys and so I did, perfectly, I'd let them kiss me, but since I was perfect that was it. I felt nothing but a dull panic for my whole teenage years."

Debbie B.'s experience describes the attempt of most adolescents to fit into and act on the social norms and values that they have been taught. By adolescence the individual has already been bombarded by heterosexual role models. Also they have been clearly educated in homophobia and heterosexism. Our school systems, families, churches and mass media, through their exclusion of positive gay and lesbian role models and their emphasis on traditional models of heterosexual coupling, aim to set boys and girls firmly on the road to heterosexuality. The young person questioning their sexual preference has been made to believe that same sex relationships are not acceptable; that violation of sex role behaviors is inappropriate, and that marriage, family and the opposite sex are the keys to happiness and success.

Erik Erikson, a psychologist who formulated a series of life tasks for human development, targets the task of all adolescents to be "Identity vs. Confusion." In this stage the individual attempts to resolve such issues as "Who am I?" "What will I become?" and "Where do I fit in?" In an attempt to respond to these questions, great importance is placed on others' opinions -- since through others the individual seeks to find validation or invalidation of themselves. For the adolescent there is rarely a support network to aid in questioning heterosexuality and a discovery of the option of a gay or lesbian lifestyle. Nor is there validation from others of this exploration into homosexuality.

For women, the task of adolescent identity development is made more difficult because of their sex. Women face not only the dysphoria of a growing recognition of their lesbianism and the resulting alienation from peer groups, but they must also face sexist cultural norms which are particularly pervasive during this development period. It is no longer an acceptable alternative. The young woman must welcome socialized femininity or pay the price of familial and peer group disapproval. Patricia R. remembers this experience:

"It was August, right before high school, and Mom and I went out to do my back-to-school shopping. All of a sudden, it seemed to me that she kept pushing these dresses and skirts on me. I had always bought jeans, cords, overalls and now she kept herding me into these Junior Miss departments. She never said I had to buy the stuff, but somehow it was understood that I was now a lady -- all I really wanted to do was to stay me."

Young boys also become more aggressive in their demand for role-playing behavior. The taunting and teasing of childhood now blossoms into violence as young males, fearing their own feminine nature, attempt to strengthen their machismo by beginning the tribal rites of initiation into masculinity. These rites are acted out in sports, dating and mating behaviors, drinking, drugs, reckless driving, and putting down those who do not fit in. Tony T. remembers:

"It was never the jocks who bothered me, they knew they were not shit, so they could be cool It was always the guys not good enough to be first string; they made my life a living nightmare."

Tony's experience speaks to the fact that it is the loss of masculinity and the presence of stereotypic feminine qualities in men that society fears so strongly. Homophobia and sexism become intimately connected as the males who are not the "heroes" put down those men who are less into the rigidly masculine role in an attempt to increase their own self worth and reduce their own anxiety. This not only leads to overt homophobia, but it also inherently demeans femininity, and so-called "womanish" behavior. At it's root, homophobia is also the sexist belief in the inferiority of feminine qualities such as emotiveness, nurturance, and interdependence.

Given these social sanctions against questioning one's role as heterosexual, the adolescent struggling with coming out seems to face two options. They can either deny that growing part of them which is questioning male/female roles and heterosexuality, or they can continue their questioning and exploration of a gay and lesbian lifestyle. either way this adolescent faces confusion. Either choice results in what Erikson has termed "Identity Confusion." That is, the adolescent is not able to solidify an identity which is internally consistent with who he/she is and also acceptable to his/her significant others. Bary J. remembers his confusion:

"I felt as if I were in a box that was 2x2x2; there was simply no where to move. I wanted to be with a man so bad, but there was no way I was going to do such a thing and risk getting beat up and kicked out of the house. I just couldn't cut it with girls, and frankly I wasn't interested in trying. Mostly I slept and ate, and I really don't recall that as being all that pleasant."

Most adolescents remain within this Catch 22: Questioning male/female roles and exploring gay and lesbian lifestyles, yet denying that questioning and exploration in an attempt to survive within their adolescent world of peers, family, school and church. The adolescent is therefore, often left with varying degrees of internalized anxiety and despair as long as they remain so dependent on the support of others. Coming out is a great risk, because one jeopardizes one's financial and emotional support.

For many, remaining within the closet was the only viable alternative until the individual becomes more independent financially and emotionally and finds others who will validate their exploration of male/female roles and of a gay and lesbian lifestyle.▼

farewell

Lesbian actress and comedienne Pat Bond dead

Photo/Tee A. Corinne
Pat Bond

Pat Bond created and starred in one-woman productions of *Gertie, Gertie, Gertie, Stein, Stein, Stein, Is Back, Back, Back* and *Lorena Hickok* (Eleanor Roosevelt's lover) and *Lizzie Borden.*

Pat will also be remembered for her contribution to country.

In 1945, when Pat went to the Blackhawk Hotel in Davenport, Iowa, to enlist in the WAC, she discovered that lesbians were still being accepted even after the October 1944 directive (against gays and lesbians in the military) had been issued. But after the war was over, times became touch. Bond, stationed in Tokyo, was interrogated during one of several extensive antilesbian witch hunts in the late 1940's. She narrowly escaped being discharged because she had wed a gay man in marriage of convenience. During the same Toyko investigation, one woman committed suicide.

In the film *Word is Out,* she talks about her life in the military. Gertrude Stein said, "Dead is dead. But dead is not done." Pat is dead, but the pleasure she brought into so many lives vibrates still. Her work is not done.

Pat Bond died from lung cancer at 65.▼

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faith notes

Updates in the religion community

by John Williams
RELIGION EDITOR

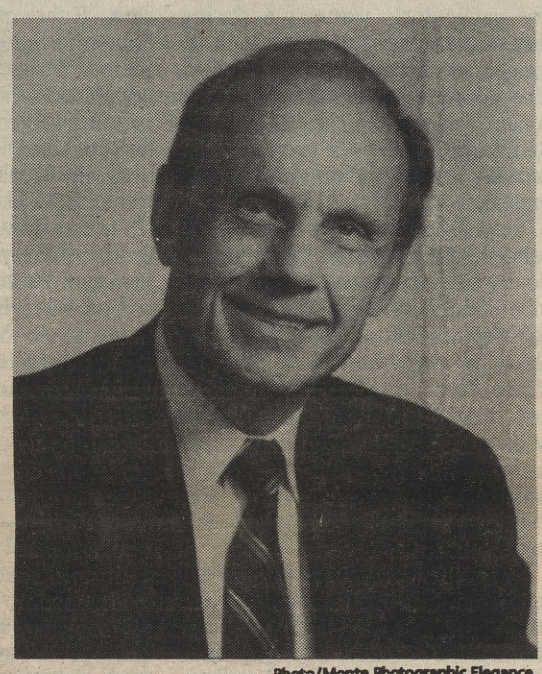
The St. Marks United Methodist Church continues its adult educational series with an emphasis on lesbian and gay issues in the United Methodist Church; contact 483-7848 ... River City Metropolitan Community Church is celebrating Black Heritage Month in February. RCMCC People of Color group will facilitate the Feb. 17, 6pm worship service. The church will sponsor a St. Valentines Day Dance on Feb. 16 at 7:30pm at the ballroom of the church. On Feb. 22-23 there will be a Choir Clinic at the church. Dr. Shedrick Wise of the L.A. MCC mother church will conduct the clinic and the weekend will culminate with a Black Heritage Concert on Feb. 24 at 6pm. Ash Wednesday services will be held on Feb. 13; call 454-4762 ... Congregation Sha'ar Zahav will celebrate the festival of Tu B'Shevat on Feb. 2 at 9:30am at Joaquin Miller Park in Oakland to celebrate the planting of new trees; 415-252-1253 for more information ... The Revelation Church has begun holding services at the Lambda Community Center, Sundays, 11am. The church has a pentecostal style of worship and is open to all persons; contact 965-8825 ... The Restoration Church of Jesus Christ elected and installed as pastor Rand Laurent in mid-January. Laurent will be teaching beginning educational classes for the congregation and has many plans for the group; 444-8291 for further details.▼

P-FLAG chooses Lutheran pastor to head federation

Paulette Goodman, president of the international Federation of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Inc. (P-FLAG) announced the selection of Philadelphia Lutheran pastor Thomas H. Sauerman as the Federation's first executive director.

Selected from a field of 65 candidates, Sauerman previously served for two years as chief financial officer and assistant to the president of Lutheran Management Services, a Philadelphia organization which operates 26 housing projects for PWAs, children, and elderly, ill, disabled, or mentally retarded persons. Between 1969 and 1988, he was director of Education and Urban Strategy for the Lutheran Church in America, the denomination's national office.

Sauerman was formally introduced to Federation chapter representatives in mid-October as the organization's first chief executive officer. He received a standing ovation from the 400 delegates gathered for P-FLAG's ninth annual convention in Anaheim -- home of homophobic congressmen William Dannemeyer (R-CA) and Robert Dornan (R-CA), and right-wing religious fundamentalist Lou Sheldon. "The name Parents FLAG should become as well known as the Red Cross or the Girl Scouts," Sauerman told the convention. "Impossible? Not by my way of thinking."



Photo/Monte Photographic Elegance
Thomas H. Saverman

Sauerman also told of his family's personal journey to understanding and accepting homosexuality and his sense of personal mission. "My wife and I have two sons, one of whom happens to be non-gay. My gay son's coming out nearly ripped our family apart, but in the long run, with P-FLAG's information and support, his homosexuality drew our family closer together. That is a goal for which I would strive for all families with lesbian and gay members."

He continued, "Parents FLAG is unique as a non-gay organization working exclusively to end homophobia and to ensure that lesbian and gay persons have full human and civil rights. We play a special role in society. I want to be more fully involved in that mission."

Before assuming the national leadership post, Sauerman -- who holds a doctorate in education as well as master's degree in sociology, education, and theology -- served as a Federation vice president and chair of its finance committee since 1985, and as president of the Federation's Philadelphia chapter. He earned recognition for his role in developing that chapter into one of the largest and most effective in the country. Last spring, the Philadelphia group received citations from both the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and the Philadelphia City Council for its humanitarian work.

Sauerman lives with his wife in Philadelphia, and commutes weekly between home and his Washington, D.C. office.▼

Superb vocal concert coming to cathedral

by John Mello
OF MGW STAFF

The Clark Chorale, a Sacramento-based vocal chamber ensemble, will be performing two masses at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament on Sunday, February 3 at 3pm. The program will consist of the *Requiem* (1583) of Spanish Renaissance composer Tomas Luis de Victoria, one of the supreme contrapuntalists of his age, and *Misa Criolla* (1963) by 20th century Argentine composer Ariel Ramirez. This concert was given recently in the 24th Street Theatre; if you love the sound of perfectly blended, pure, a capella voices don't miss them at the Cathedral. The second work is based on folk themes and includes harpsichord, guitar and percussion in a very unusual treatment of the Latin text. Tickets are $8 adults and $3 students and under 18.

The Clark Chorale has been attracting attention for its dedication to rarely-performed works, and for its integration of theater and dance into its concerts. The upcoming Rediscovered Treasures event will offer the Pergolesi Stabat Mater with dancers from the University of the Pacific, as well as Beethoven Motets, a Stravinsky Mass with synthesizer, and choral works by Puccini. This unique performance will take place Sunday, April 14 at 5pm at the 24th Street Theatre in the Sierra 2 Center. For more information, please contact Melissa Mandeville at 1-729-1096.▼

Rev. Smith finalist for local award

Reverend Elder Freda Smith, senior pastor of River City MCC has been nominated by the 1991 Sacramento Magazine's Regional Pride Awards as a finalist in the Human Services category. Nominated by a member of the community, she was selected as a finalist after a review by a panel of 17 judges. The winners will be announced and honored at a black-tie dinner celebration Wednesday, February 20, 7:30pm, at the Radisson Hotel, and will be featured in the March issue of SACRAMENTO magazine. Tickets may be purchased for $75 from SACRAMENTO magazine, and will benefit local children's causes and the Children's Pride Fund. For information: 446-7548.▼

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cruise it

Good used car, cheap?

by Raoul Anthony Renaud
OF MGW STAFF

If all you want is good, reliable transportation and don't particularly care about being seen in the latest, flashiest set of wheels in town, read on.

It's still possible to buy a good used car for well under $2000 ... if you know where to look and what to look for. Here are a few pointers:

1) One of my favorite hunting grounds for cheap wheels is used car lots. Usually these are found along major thoroughfares in lower income neighborhoods, and often contain some real gems. (Also some real turkeys, so watch out). Many of the cars on these lots came from new car dealers who took them in trade. They were wholesaled off because they were too old. That doesn't mean they're worn out, though.

2) Sometimes you can catch one of these older cars at the new car dealership before it is wholesaled. They usually park them out back somewhere. In 1981 I found a 1970 Old Cutlass at the Olds dealership in Oakland that was going to be wholesaled. I bought it for $800. My sister is still driving it!

3) When looking at an older car on a lot, check to see if it's been repainted. You can usually tell because there'll be paint on the edges of the chrome trim, or around the door handles. If it's been repainted, get suspicious. They may have been extensive body damage. Look for rippled areas in the sheet metal, indicating body work. Reject any car that has had major body work.

4) Next look underneath. Is it nice and dry under there or is everything all wet with oil? A little seepage is O.K. but major drips usually lead to expensive repairs.

5) Now look inside. I always check the edge of the driver's door for oil change records. If the car was serviced fairly recently chances are it has been well maintained. You can also look in the glove box to see if the previous owner's name and address is in the owner's manual. If you can get this information, definitely call the previous owner and find out why she got rid of the car, whether it was troublesome, and how well it was maintained. I have found that former owners are pleased to hear that someone nice is considering their old car and are eager to answer your questions.

6)Go ahead and open the hood. Hopefully the car has not been started today so you can see how it performs before it is warmed up. Before you start it, check the radiator (should be full of bright green liquid) the engine oil (should be full, but you can't tell much by color) and the automatic transmission fluid, if so equipped (should be reddish brown). Look at the air filter -- if it is clean that's a sign that the previous owner took good care of the car.

7) Now it's time to try starting the car. If the owner's manual is there, read over the cold starting procedure before you turn the key. Follow the directions precisely. If the car is hard to start or stalls several times before it will keep running, you might want to look at another car. Cold driveability problems are built into some older cars and can be difficult or impossible to fix.

8) If the car has an automatic transmission, put your foot firmly on the brake and shift into Drive. You should feel the transmission engage within a second -- any longer delay usually means the transmission is ready for an overhaul. Keep your foot on the brake and shift to Reverse. You should feel the shift promptly and there shouldn't be any clunking or banging sounds.

9) Take a test drive. This should include a bumpy street and a stretch on the freeway. A very important engine test is to coast down from highway speed to 25 mph or so, and then step hard on the gas. Watch the rear view mirror for smoke. Blue smoke is a sure sign that the engine's piston rings are worn out. Don't buy that car unless you plan to rebuild the engine.

10) Test the brakes by stopping fast (don't skid) from 40 mph or more. Make sure no one's behind you when you do this. The car should stop fairly straight, without pulling. You shouldn't feel anything unusual in the steering wheel. Listen out the windows for scraping sounds when the brakes are applied -- a sure sign that they've worn down to the rivets and will be costly to repair.

See Cruise It on page 22

pets

Common sense and our pets

by Joan B. Guertin
OF MGW STAFF

Resolutions! With the advent of each new year we make them ... and we break them. This year, however, things will be different in this writer's household ... my resolution to keep my dogs fit and healthy is one that is to be taken very seriously with an eye toward watching their weight, keeping to a balanced diet and plenty of controlled exercise.

So, what brought about this attack of conscience where the dogs' welfare is concerned? Blame it on the postman who delivered the current (February) issue of Dog Fancy magazine. As I eagerly thumbed through the pages, there it was ... two articles on Canine Obesity! Immediately pictures flashed through my mind ... there was Candy, my daughter Dorothy's first Corgi. A second-hand dog, Candy was unloved by her first owner, a condition that Dorothy was determined to remedy by feeding her to death. She and Candy spent hours sharing meals, and munchies such as popcorn and potato chips in front of the TV and other things that were not good for either one of them. The end result was a case of acute pancreatitis for a very pudgy Candy. One of the symptoms of pancreatitis is an insatiable appetite for ANYTHING edible. Candy became adept at opening cupboards and raiding boxes of cereal and cookies. Her gymnastic skills were of Olympic caliber as she scaled chairs, leaped; to counter tops in order to reach the grease in the frying pan on the stove. By age nine her rotund little body gave out. Dorothy misses her but learned a serious, though painful, lesson ... a dog is not a human; the canine system cannot handle human food, and obesity kills!

Love for our four legged friends may be the excuse we use for overfeeding. It is difficult to "say no" to a pup that looks at you with soulful eyes, but it becomes human responsibility to regulate the quality and the quantity of our pets' food. Dogs, just like people get fat easily and you may not even notice it until you realize that Rover can't jog with you anymore because his legs won't hold him up or he's winded in the first 20 yards. Overweight dogs are also subject to heart failure and diabetes as well as pancreatitis. This is the best reason for not deviating from a well-balanced diet of a high quality dog food ... if you do, you are putting your pet's health at risk and shortening its life span.

Joan Guertin & Chiquita

Another point to remember is to use treats sparingly ... they are wonderful as training tools, but should be small, merely a taste as a reward for good performance. Stay away from treats that contain sugar and you may event want to think about giving lettuce, tomato, broccoli or carrots to your pet in lieu of dog biscuits ... many dogs like them as well, veggies are good for them and provide some crunch as well.

Exercise is equally as important for our dogs. A nicely controlled walk is as valuable as a session playing ball in the back yard. As with humans, walks are good for the cardiovascular system and excellent for conditioning and muscle tone.

If you feel that your dog is overweight, cut back slightly on the amount of food at each feeding and increase the exercise. If your dog is actually obese, consult with your veterinarian regarding a diet program.

One of the positive aspects of the recent cold snap in Northern California is that it actually provided a major kill of outdoor fleas. A pet shop friend of mine reminded me that now is the best time to begin premise control to take care of any fleas hiding out in your carpets or in cracks and corners in the house. When premise control is practiced three or four times a year coupled with regular treatment of the outside areas, there is less need to actually treat the dog. Fleas live in the ground and the rugs and spend only a brief amount of time on the dog while feeding. Too often we try to solve the flea problems by over treating the animal which may create a toxic buildup. Make use of the bonus of the ground kill due to the freeze; treat the premises and then bathe the dog periodically; brush often; and launder pets' bedding and vacuum the sleeping area will go a long way toward long-term flea control.

This is the first of a series of columns devoted to the welfare of pets. This writer will be sharing information, discussing issues and passing on tips on a variety of subjects regarding your pets. As a dog trainer and canine behaviorist with more than 36 years experience, your dog and your relationship with it are my primary concerns. However, I will be consulting with friends and outside authorities to pass on information about other pets that inhabit our households. Mine, for instance, includes two Welsh Corgis, a long-coated Chihuahua, a house bunny and various and sundry dogs who frequently visit for an attitude adjustment.

Questions are welcome and can be addressed to this publication.

Next: suggestions for housetraining that Christmas puppy.

Joan B. Guertin, owner of Common Sense Dog Training is a Canine Behaviorist and trainer utilized a psychological, nonaggressive approach to training and problem solving. She has trained since 1957. Watch for dates of upcoming classes.▼

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books, etc.

Edward Albee, Kate Millett to kick off OUT/Write '91

Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Edward Albee and groundbreaking feminist author Kate Millett will join Native American writer Paula Gunn Allen and pioneering gay novelist John Rechy as the keynote speakers for OUT/Write '91, the second National Lesbian and Gay Writers Conference, scheduled for the weekend of March 1, 2, and 3, at the Cathedral Hill Hotel in San Francisco. OUT/Write '91 is sponsored by OUT/LOOK, the nation's largest lesbian and gay magazine in the country.

Among the 200 panelists invited to participate are: Judy Grahn, Edmund White, Dorothy Allison, Katherine V. Forrest, Paul Monette, Susie Bright, Kevin Killian, Betty Berzon, Robert Patrick, Michael Nava, Kate Bornstein, Joseph Hansen, Pat Califia, Bo Huston, Sara Levi Calderon, Luis Zapata, JoAnn Loulan, Assotto Saint, Lev Raphael, Laura Davis, Mark Thompson, Urvashi Vaid, and Gary Glickman.

"We are very excited about the line-up of speakers for this year's conference," comments OUT/LOOK publisher Jeffrey Escoffier. "Over 1,200 people attended OUT/Write last spring, which was billed as the largest gathering of gay and lesbian writers in history. OUT/Write '91 is expected to surpass last year's conference: we're anticipating over 1,800 participants and planning twice as many panel workshops." According to Escoffier, the conference will bring together writers, editors, publishers, booksellers, agents, critics, journalists, students, performance artists and readers from across the nation to discuss practical issues and political and artistic questions facing lesbian and gay writers.

More than 50 panels and workshops are planned on a wide range of topics, including:

- The Writer's Responsibilities: Gender, Race and Class in Lesbian and Gay Fiction
- Lesbian/Gay Journalism and Its Role in Community Organizing
- Visual Aspects of Gay/Lesbian Print Media
- Early Gay Press
- Once You Have Your Contract/ How to Publicize Your Book
- Writing and Censorship
- Plus panels on Native American, Jewish, Latin and Mexican lesbian/gay writing.

OUT/Write '91 is part of a week of related literary events, including two benefit readings and several receptions hosted by gay publications and organizations such as *The Advocate*, *Amethyst Press*, and *The Publishing Triangle*. On Saturday night of the conference, OUT/LOOK celebrates its third anniversary with Out is In, a gala writers cabaret and dance 8pm-midnight, Saturday, March 2, at the Ferry Boat Santa Rosa, a historic ferry docked at the foot of Market Street in San Francisco. Tickets $25 (by Feb. 15)/$30 at the door. Preceding the cabaret and dance, OUT/LOOK will host a Sponsor's Reception, celebrating pioneer lesbian and gay authors, at 6pm on Saturday. Sponsor's donations: $125-$1000 (includes entrance to cabaret and dance). Proceeds will assist the OUT/LOOK Foundation in supporting the work of lesbian and gay writers.

This year's conference and events will focus on two main themes: censorship, and the cultural diversity of lesbian and gay literature. As Escoffier points out: "With the re-election of Jesse Helms and the continued attacks on freedom of expression, OUT/Write is more important than ever. The success of this type of event marks the coming of age of lesbian and gay literature. The creative imagination that once flourished only as spoken words in dark rooms, bars, and in our silent hearts, now also exists on paper: it can be read, it can be remembered, it can move and protect us. This conference is our way of nurturing that imagination and saying to the world that lesbian and gay writing is not only alive and well -- it's here to stay."

Registration for OUT/Write '91 is $45. To register, make checks payable to the OUT/LOOK Foundation, 2940 16th St., #319, San Francisco 94103. Discounts on travel and accommodations are available for conference participants at the Cathedral Hill Hotel (for reservations 800-622-0855 in California). For information: Jennifer Kennedy, conference coordinator, 415-626-3334.▼

With love from hell

reviewed by Rich Flowers
GUEST WRITER

***With Love From Hell*, by Matt Groening; Harper Collins, $8.95; 32 postcards.**

Life is hell, so why should love be any other way. *The Simpsons'* creator, Matt Groening, has assembled *With Love From Hell*, a fun cartoon collect postcard book which will be available in local bookstores by February 11th, just in time for another hellish Valentine's Day. If you've ever had that uncontrollable urge to throttle the living daylights out of your lover but could never find the Valentine that adequately expressed these feelings,let the *LIFE IN HELL* crew, Binky, Bongo, Sheeba, and the befezzed couple Akbar and Jeff get your message across with Groening's hilarious, full-color, ready-to-send Valentine postcards. After all, all's fair in love and war!

If you have someone in your life who doesn't respect you, gives you nothing but grief and takes advantage of you, Groening reminds us that this special someone can be only one thing: your lover. *With Love From Hell* confirms our worst suspicions that arguments and threats of breaking-up are the real signs of true love, not hugs and kisses. So remember, if you feel like you are drifting apart from your lover, have nothing in common anymore, don't care about each other and feel suffocated, don't worry, you're just in love! Yes, love is hell. But despite it all, we always go back for more.▼

On The Wing announces discontinuation of its monthly publication

Gloria Burt, publisher of *On The Wing* -- Sacramento's only arts magazine, announced that *On The Wing* will no longer be published monthly. But emphasized that *OTW* is not going out of business, but changing its focus. *On The Wing* will continue as a special publication in conjunction with events such as the Rising Stars Exhibition, the Artwalk, and the Toast to Excellence. The annual Arts directory is also planned for the coming year.

Burt explains that the decision to stop publishing On The Wing after 10 years was an extremely difficult and very personal one. But she views the change of focus for On The Wing as a beginning rather than an ending.

Other recent circumstances made her decision even more clear. When James Leitzell, editor, resigned in November to pursue his own endeavors, the magazine and the publisher suffered a great loss. Also, Burt has recently been appointed to serve on the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission and wanted to devote a great deal of time to that position.

Burt also noted that it if weren't for *OTW's* volunteers, the magazine would not be the success it is today. "I want to thank my terrific staff of volunteers who helped make putting the magazine together a truly wonderful experience for me. I like to feel that *OTW* has been part of the tremendous growth in the Sacramento area arts. But now it is time for someone else to take over the task of getting arts information to the public.▼

CRUISE IT!

Continued from page 21

11) With the engine hot, open the hood again. Look for steam or smoke escaping, and look again underneath for leaks. If the car has a temperature gauge, has it remained in the normal range? Don't buy a car that overheats. Chances are it's been doing it for long enough that the engine has been damaged.

12) After the engine has been off for a few minutes, try to restart it. Hot starting problems can be troublesome. If the engine is reluctant to turn over it could be just a weak battery but it could also be a faulty starter. If it cranks easily but is hard to start there's a problem with the carburetor, fuel pump or fuel injection if so equipped. Some big V-8's in American cars tighten up as they get hot and become hard to start and there's not much you can do other than let it cool down first.

13) You also want to check the operation of the accessories. it might not matter to you if the air conditioning isn't cold, but malfunctioning power windows can be a real nuisance.

All of the above can be accomplished in under an hour. If you like the car but want reassurance about it, have your mechanic or the AAA diagnostic service check it over. If you buy the car, maintain it according to the owner's manual, and if the owner's manual is missing you can usually get one from the manufacturer or at an automobile dismantler. If you're not sure when the car was last serviced, assume it is overdue and have it serviced.

Buying a cheap used car can be fun and you can have the satisfaction of "beating the system" by having reliable transportation for relatively little cash. Good luck!▼

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MASSAGE for men: All-American Boys Josh & Steve offer a 2-on-1 nude massage. It's the most exciting thing to come to Sacramento! 929-9466.

FRIENDLY BI ... I'm a white bi male, 34yo, 6'1", 180 lbs., lkng. for any kind of safe sex. Adventures with anyone out there. Call Jim at 386-8444.

SINCERE & sexy boy, early 30s sks. masculine, handsome top to help me explore my darker side, safe only. My age or younger. Reply w/photo. Friendship a plus. MGW Box 12, 1725 L St., Sac. 95814. x0215.

BLACK men prone to outdoors/nature - age unimportant - hip country dude - WM 45, 5'8", 160 - would enjoy daing and more - Let's frolic - phone, photo Box 645 Somerset, CA 95684.

NOVICE middle aged exec. rdy. to learn/explore. Nd. companion/teacher for a long wknd. in Palm Springs-Vegas or ? You - experienced, educated & caring, willing to "break-in" a novice. Prefer smooth & not hung too large. NO DRUGS. If interested in a relaxing, hopefully enjoyable wknd., call Dan at 557-4274.

BI blk. male, 6'2", lean & muscular, very masculine, single, athlete, enjoys paying baseball & football, dancing & theatre, works hard. Blk. hair, brn. eyes, dimples. Open & positive, HIV-, secure sks. individual of similar qualities for simple phone conversation & other interests. Call 447-3483, pls. lv. msg. if no answer.

TWO on one for the ultimate massage experience. Call Josh & Steve, it's relaxing & sensuous & we're friendly & certified! 929-9466.

Personals-Women

GWF, 54, active, loving, caring, would like to meet same. Reply MGW Box 11, 1725 L St., Sac. 95814. x0215.

Roommates

M/F to share 4 bdrm. hse. S. Natomas. No drugs/smkg., 1800 sq. ft. spacious new age home, spa; 921-9052, animals negotiable, $300. x0215

CONDO to share GWM or GAM 2 bdrm., 2 ba. S. Natomas area unit has own washer/dryer, woodburning frplc., pool, jacuzzi, wt. rm. $350 + 1/2 util. Call 648-9722 to see this beauty. Centrall located 5 min. fm. dtwn.

GWF 35-50 share 3 bdrm., 1 ba. Smoker OK, $300 util. inc.; 361-7065, Bradshaw/Hwy. 50 area.

NON-SMOKER wanted to share lg. hse. on river by Watt. $425/mo. inc. util. Great location for runner or cyclist. Jerry, 362-4978.

4 BDRM. home on the river, hot tub, vegetarian, dog lover. $300 + 1/2 util. 739-6233. x0315

GF looking for housemate, 3 bdrm., 1 ba. nr. midtown quiet neighborhood, huge back yd., frplc., W/D, sm. pet OK, nonsmkr., furn. or unfurn. Avail. now 739-8517.

GWM, 24, needs rmt. to share, 1200 sq. ft. apt. in Pocket area; 3 bdrm., 2 ba., on priv. lake. Wt. rm., sauna, liv. and din. rms., fully furnished; W/D, refrig. $314/mo. + 1/3 util. Avail. Feb. 1; Mike 395-0405. x0201

M/F TO SHARE 4 bdrm. house in River Park; vegetarian/dog lover a must $300 739-6233. x0201

TO SHARE3 bdrm. hse.; no smoking, W. Sacto., $300 mo. 1/3 util., pool, 372-8719. x0201

ROOMIES ... Confidential Gay roommate matching. Sacramento, Stockton, and major cities nationwide! 1-800-272-8372, 2pm-8pm. x0715

MASSAGE for men. Alan 457-5960. x0201

MASSAGE for men. Friendly, relaxing, sensuous. I'm 27, handsome, built, strong hands, gentle heart. You deserve the best. Scott 646-3573. x0215

MASSAGE for the active male. Athletic, sore muscles, stress, soothing, sensuous, sensitive. Appts. 10am-10pm. Ray 455-4314. x0415.

LEGAL RIGHTS! Losing them because you can't afford an attorney? European legal concept sweeping the nation. Free 24 hr. recorded message. 484-4277.

Wanted

NOW AND AGAINbuys good used button-up Levis 501's and Levi's jackets, 2101 L Street, Sacto.

MODERN SET of encyclopedias for MGW offices. 441-6397

V8 truck or van wanted. Cheap. 441-6397.

Valentines

MY DEAREST KAY: My heart is full as I try to describe my love for you. You have enhanced my life immeasurably & I thrill to think these years we've spent together are only the beginning of a long & glorious affair! Passionately yours, Maggie.

classified/personals/business directory

Mail to: MGW 1725 L Street, Sacramento, CA, 95814

Heading _____

$5 |_|_|_|

5 MILE RUN
3 MILE WALK
AND KIDS'
EVENTS

SUNDAY
MARCH 3
1991
9 AM

1991 CDCW CAMELLIA CLASSIC

Run, Walk & Kids Event

FORMERLY KNOWN AS "BLISTERS FOR SISTERS"

REGISTRATION Pre-registration fee is $15 (must be postmarked before February 23). Commemorative T-shirts guaranteed to preregistrants only. Late registration fee is $20, with T-shirts available while supplies last.

LATE REGISTRATION AND PACKET PICK-UP Saturday, March 2nd from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at FLEET FEET SPORTS - J Street, Race Day: Pick up from 7 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. in front of Sacramento City College on Freeport Blvd.

COURSE Event begins at 9 a.m. SHARP at Freeport Blvd. and 14th Ave., RAIN OR SHINE. Course consists of a 3-mile and a 5-mile loop through William Land Park.

AWARDS Ceremony to be held following the Kids' Events. Awards will be presented to 1st-2nd- and 3rd place male and female winners in each age division: wheelchair, 14 & under, 15-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60 and over.

PRIZES Refreshments for all participants and the opportunity to win a variety of raffle prizes. Non-participants may buy raffle tickets at the event for $1.00 each.

KIDS' EVENTS Kids 5 and under are invited to participate in a fun Run, Jump, and Climb. Kids ages 6-11 are encouraged to run in a 1/2-mile Fun Run. All participants will receive ribbons. KIDS' FEE: $3 per child before February 23; $5 thereafter. The Kids' Events will begin at approximately 10 a.m.

DONATIONS All proceeds go directly into the General Fund CDCW, a not-for-profit United Way affiliate organization which provides programs for the prevention and treatment of chemical dependency for women and their families. Additional tax-deductible contributions are welcomed.

INFORMATION Contact CDCW 916/448-2951.

REGISTRATION FORM AND EVENT WAIVER

In consideration of this entry acceptance, I the undersigned, intending to be legally bound, hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against the "Camellia Classic" and all other sponsoring groups and merchants, their representatives, successors, and assignees for any and all injuries by me in said event. I attest and verify that I am physically fit and have sufficiently trained for the completion of the "Camellia Classic" Run, Walk, and Kids' events.

Signature _____

Date _____

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Date of Birth _____ Age Race Day _____

Male _____ Female _____

Event: 5-Mile Run _____ 3-Mile Walk _____

Kids' Events _____

Parents must sign waiver for any participant under 18 years

T-Shirt Size: Sm ___ Med ___ Lrg ___ XL ___

___ I have attached my Pre-registration fee of $15

___ I have attached my Late-registration fee of $20 (after 2/23)

___ I want to make an additional tax-deductible contribution of $_____ to support the programs of CDCW.

Mail to **Camellia Classic, 1507 21st Street, Suite 100, Sacramento CA 95814**

calendar

FEBRUARY

Friday 1

Workshop: Have You Lived Before? 7pm, Church of Enthusiasm and Joy, 2755 Cottage Way, #11, $15; 456-5685 or 489-7503.

NOW's Young Feminist Conference, Akron OH, Linda Joplin 442-3414 for more info; thru Feb. 3.

Saturday 2

Common Sense Dog Training: begining 9:30am; puppies 10:45am; intermedia, noon; Oak Meadow Park, American River Dr. betw. Howe & Watt; 485-2201.

California NOW Legislative Workshop, 9:30am-4pm, State Capitol; 442-3414.

RSVP Improvisational Comedy Theatre, The Guild Coffee House, 35th & Broadway, 8:30pm $5; every Saturday in Feb.; 442-RSVP.

Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts Gala Opening, 6:30pm, $35; tickets 415-903-6000.

Music by Joey & Black Men's Xchange presents Sweet Sensations, A Valentine Dance, 9pm-2am, Shangri-La, 6339 Mack Rd., $5, no host bar, portion of proceeds to benefit Project Survival; 427-5713.

The Camellia Symphony Orchestra presents "Aventuras Latinas," 8pm, Hiram Johnson Auditorium, 65th St. & 14th Ave., $8.50 general; $6 seniors & students; 344-5844 for info.

Sacramento Symphony plays Vivaldi, 8pm, Roseville Theater; 783-4117 or BASS/TM 923-BASS, and through the Roseville Chamber of Commerce, 650 Douglas Blvd.

Sunday 3

The Clark Chorale, 3pm, Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament; adults $8, $3 students; 729-1096.

Monday 4

Sacramento Mardi Gras "First Night Party," Frenchy's Restaurant, 2nd & K, 7pm, $2 cover charge; 441-2154.

Women's Rap Group, 7-9pm, "Satisfaction - Guaranteed?", Lambda Center, 1931 L; 442-0185 or 381-5569.

Tuesday 5

Improvisational Comedy and Drama Workshop, 7-9:30pm; Coloma Comm. Center, 4623 T St., $40/series; 442-RSVP.

Sacramento Mardi Gras "Fat Tuesday," Fat City, Front & J, 6pm; selection & crowning of Mardi Gras Queen; 446-6768.

"Premenstrual Syndrome: Myth or Fact?" Dr. Lesley-Schroeder, speaker; Cowell Student Health Center #G, UCD; 752-2300.

"Being Gay Today" 10pm, Cable Channel 63; lesbian & gay programs from around the country and beyond.

"Outlook" 10pm, lesbian/gay video, Cable Channel 63; Darryl Alvarez & Lily Braindrop & monthly GLAAD report.

Wednesday 6

Deadline for applications for the Ms. Leather Sacramento 1991 contest; to receive application write 3624 Folsom Blvd., Sac. 95816-6617 or call 456-1610. The contest is Feb. 9.

Open auditions, "The Singular Life of Albert Knobs, 7-11pm, CSUS Speech/Drama Building, #249, 6000 J St.; 278-6368.

Nomination deadline for "Women in History" awards program; 449-2057 for info.

Thursday 7

Girls and Women in Sports Day, California NOW; 442-3414.

"Being Gay Today, 9pm, Cable Channel 63, lesbian & gay shows from around the country & beyond.

"Outlook" 9pm, lesbian/gay video, Cable Channel 63; Darryl Alvarez & Lily Braindrop & monthly GLAAD report.

Open auditions, "The Singular Life of Albert Knobs, 7-11pm, CSUS Speech/Drama Building, #249, 6000 J St.; 278-6368.

Poetry readings, 8-10pm; $5 fee, fundraiser for Artist-In Residence program, I.D.E.A., Luna's Cafe, 1414 16th St.; 452-0949.

"Psychic Abilities," six-week class series begins tonight, 7pm, $20/session, Church of Enthusiasm & Joy; 489-7503 for registration.

Friday 8

"Absolutely Positive" premiere, benefit for the UCSF AIDS Health Project, 8pm, Castro Theatre, 429 Castro St., S.F.; reception 6:30pm; 415-476-6430.

Saturday 9

California NOW Legislative Meeting; 442-3414.

Ms. Leather Sacramento 1991 contest, 8pm, JTC, 2062 Auburn Blvd.; live entertainment includes Miss Gay California 1989 Amanda Foxx.

"How to Survive a Media Interview," 8:30am-12noon, YWCA, 1122 17th St., $25 pre-registration; 442-4741.

Sacramento Mardi Gras Parade, begins at Capitol Mall thru Old Sac, 11am.

Mardi Gras Masquerade Ball, Towe Ford Museum, 2200 Front St., 7pm-midnight, advance tickets $20, at-the-door $25; 722-8747.

Mardi Gras Festival, Towe Ford Museum, 10am-5pm, adults $6, seniors/students $4.

Women's softball, CalPoly San Luis at UCD softball field, Russell Blvd. & La Rue Rd., Davis, 12noon.

Free tour of downtown Sacramento public artwork, meet at City Hall, 915 I St., 1:30pm; 449-5558.

"Metaphysical Inspiration for Children," 5-week class for children ages 7-13, $60; registration 456-5685 or 489-7503.

Sunday 10

Seminar: "Addiction Awareness for Leather People," 12:30-4:30pm, Women's Building, 3543 18th St., S.F., $10-$20 sliding scale; write: Gabrielle Antolovich, Box 352, Saratoga, 95071.

Mardi Gras Festival continues, see Feb. 9.

"Prosperity Made Simple," 1:15-4:15pm, Fruitridge Christian Church, 4445 Fruitridge Rd., 456-0937 or 489-7503 info & registration.

Monday 11

Women's Rap Group, 7-9pm, Potluck, Lambda Center, 1931 L St., 442-0185 or 381-5569.

"Prosperity Made Simple," 7-10pm, Church of Enthusiasm & Joy, 2755 Cottage Way, #11; 456-0937 or 489-7503 info & registration.

"Help Your: An Overview of Public Benefits Programs," 7-9pm, SAF, 1900 K St., 2nd floor; 448-2437.

Tuesday 12

Improvisational Comedy and Drama Workshop, 7-9:30pm; see Feb. 5.

"Being Gay Today" 10pm, Cable Channel 63; lesbian & gay programs from around the country and beyond.

Wednesday 13

Sacramento NOW Board Meeting, open to all members; potluck 6:30pm, meeting 7pm, 1703 H St.; Jody 481-3328.

Women's softball, Notre Dame Belmont at UCD softball field, Russell Blvd. & La Rue Rd., Davis, 1:30pm.

"Earthwalkers, The Vision," lecture by Sun Thunder about American Indian healing traditions, 7pm, Church of Enthusiasm & Joy, 2755 Cottage Way, #11, donations accepted; 489-7503 info & registration.

"Cold Calling for Professionals" workshop, YWCA, 1122 17th St., 6-9pm, $35; 442-4741 registration.

Thursday 14

Common Sense Dog Training: Beginning Dogs, 6:30pm; Land Park Pet Center, S. Land Park & Sutterville Rd.; 485-2201.

The Human Rights/Fair Housing Commission public forum on hate violence; Ron 444-6903.

"Being Gay Today, 9pm, Cable Channel 63, lesbian & gay shows from around the country & beyond.

"United In Love," Valentine's Day Party featuring Tom Ammiano, fundraiser for BWMT/GLAAD, 6-10pm, First Unitarian Church, Franklin & Geary, S.F., ticket info 826-2968 or 861-4588.

Friday 15

Imago Relationship workshop (thru Feb. 17). Cost is $500, some scholarships available; limit to workshops are 15 couples. Flyers/info forthcoming.

Sacramento Symphony with Lubomir Georgiev, cello; 8pm, Sac. Comm. Center, 14th & L sts.; 649-0200 or BASS/TM 923-BASS.

THEATRE

Nevada Theatre - Daddy's Birthday - starts Feb. 1; 456-2861.

Music Circus - Les Miserables - thru Feb. 10; 441-3163.

Studio Theatre, Grass Valley - Snoopy - thru Feb. 9; 273-2730.

The March - Beyond Brooklyn - thru March 9; 415-641-0235.

Melarkey's - Rain Forest: The Lungs of the Mother - thru Feb. 10; 447-3382.

Miriam Gray's Acting Studio - Frankie and Johnny in the Clair De Lune - thru Feb. 15; 443-3188.

Sacramento Theatre Co. - Joe Turner's Come and Gone - thru Feb. 10; 446-6722.

Theatre Rhinoceros - Inner Spirit: Outer Visions - thru Feb. 10; 415-861-5079.

Theatre Rhinoceros - Hidden: A Gender - thru Feb. 16; 415-861-5079.

Eureka Theatre Co. - The Mystery of Irma Vep- thru Feb. 17; 415-558-9898.

James (Dan Hiatt, left) makes a point to Lord Edgar (Brian Thorstenson) in "The Mystery of Irma Vep."

Climate Theatre - Will It Pop? A Trilogy for Late-Night Neurotics Feb. 7-23; 415-626-9196.

Lambda Players - Cloud Nine - Feb. 9-March 3; 442-0185.

The Magic Theatre - Temptation - Feb. 12-March 17; 415-441-8001.

GALLERY

Michael Himovitz Gallery - Howard Finster, Livia Stein, Bill Yates thru Feb. 23; 448-8723.

Himovitz Gallery - Yan Nasdmbene illustrations thru Feb. 23; 925-5917.

I.D.E.A. at Luna's Cafe - "Masks, Murals and Poetry", by Armando Cid, thru Feb. 18; 452-0949.

Lite Rail Gallery - Chinese Art Exhibit thru Feb. 28; 441-1013.

Lite Rail Gallery - "Chernobyl - Memories Not to Be Forgotten" thru Feb. 22; 441-1013.

Lite Rail Gallery, Rocklin - Elizabeth Solomon thru Feb. 28.

Matrix Gallery - Linnell Barnhart ceramic sculpture Feb. 6 thru March 8; 441-4818.

Matrix Gallery - Valerie T. Bechtol, Kim Springer and Sheila Pitt, a group show dealing with feminism and spirituality Feb. 6 thru March 8; 441-4818.

Crocker Art Museum - Explorations thru March 1; 449-5423.

Shenandoah Gallery - "Winter Show" featuring the work of Molly Kohlschreiber thru March 25; 209-245-4455.

Crocker Art Museum - Howard Finster "The Road to Heaven is Paved with Good Works" thru March 31; 449-5423.

Lumomir Georgiev, principal cellist with the Sacramento Symphony.

Deadline for nominations for Lambda Literary Awards; for more info call 202-462-7924.

Women's softball, SFSU at UCD softball field, Russell Blvd. & La Rue Rd., Davis, 1:30pm.

Valley Knights Motorcycle Club open meeting, Incredible Edible; 455-6540.

"Minding Your Own Business," registration deadline for Feb. 23 workshop; 441-4207.

Lite Rail Gallery - exhibition featuring Sacramento's finest cartoonists thru March 30.

Garbeau's Dinner Theatre - The Crucifer of Blood - thru March 2; 985-6361.

Carmichael Civic Theatre - Bully Teddy's Wonderful World thru March 9; 489-6880.

Riverboat Delta King - Shticks and Stones - thru March 23; 444-KING.